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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXII, No. 21.

Section 1

July 30, 1941.

SILK PRICE

CONTROL, SUPPLY

The initial ceiling on silk prices will be limited to raw silk, the OPACS announced last night after a conference with industry representatives. Two steps outlined to make supplies go as far as possible include the planning of further meetings with representatives of the rayon and cotton yarn trades to arrive at combinations of pure silk and other fibers to enable the production of satisfactory hosiery; and the requesting that the silk industry investigate the possibility of cutting down the number of yarn sizes from more than 20 to 3 or 4. (New York Journal of Commerce, July 30.)

D.C. FREIGHT

COMMITTEE

ORGANIZED

In a move to bring about more efficient use of freight cars in the interest of national defense, District of Columbia and vicinity railroad officials yesterday organized the Washington Freight Car Efficiency Committee, and named Henry E. Stringer, vice president of the Hydraulic-Press Brick Company, as chairman, says the Washington Post, July 30. Warren C. Kendall, chairman of the car service division of the Association of American Railroads, told the group that "freight traffic in the first six months of 1941 was 17.6 percent higher than in the same period in 1940."

PULP, PAPER

INDUSTRIES

NAME COMMITTEES

About 140 representatives of the newspaper, magazine, book publishing, and printing industries, meeting yesterday to nominate a printing and publishing committee of the Pulp and Paper Products Defense Industry Advisory Committee, were assured that there is no prospect of a shortage of newsprint, says the New York Times, July 30. The group met at the request of the Paper and Pulp Branch of OPM. Two similar committees were nominated previously, one by basic producers of paper, paper board, and pulp, and the other by "converters," or manufacturers of paper products.

"Harvests For
Tomorrow"

Harvests for Tomorrow, latest Government documentary film, has been previewed in the USDA Auditorium, says the Washington Star, July 23. The film, which reflects life in agricultural New England, is superbly photographed, with moving narration. It was produced by the AAA and is being distributed to movie houses throughout the country by Warner Brothers.

Plastics
Increase

The making of plastics originated in 1869 with the manufacture of celluloid, according to records of the Census Bureau. By 1940, the Census of Manufactures enumerated 38 establishments which manufactured plastic materials in crude form, while the value of such materials had reached \$79,753,000 annually. In addition, the production of fabricated plastic products and of products containing plastic materials now runs into hundreds of millions of dollars a year. (Utah Farmer, July 15.)

Oil From
Safflower

A new source of oil will be obtainable from safflower crops harvested this summer by a number of South Plains farmers, says the Amarillo (Tex.) News, July 17. Safflower seed was distributed free by several oil mills to farmers who agreed to experiment with it. Oil yields this year promise to be good. Since this crop can be grown with ordinary farm equipment, can be combined like wheat, and the seed crushed on cotton oil mill machinery, it is of more than ordinary importance in this cotton region. The United States has plenty of lint cotton but is short on vegetable oil crops, says the News, so safflower serves as a supplementary crop rather than in competition with cotton.

Farm Implement
Exports Down

Totaling \$8,309,217, United States exports of farm implements and machinery in May were 13 percent below May 1940, when they amounted to \$9,555,833, the Commerce Department recently reported. (New York Journal of Commerce, July 24.)

Special Dietary
Food Regulations

Proposed regulations relating to foods for special dietary uses have been announced by the Federal Security Agency, says Industrial Standardization, July. The regulations have been drawn up to give effect to a section of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act which declares a food misbranded if it is represented as a good for special dietary use and its label does not bear the information required by the regulations.

Poultry Feed
Labeling

The Food and Drug Administration has announced that a new unit, the AOAC Chick Unit, has been adopted for use in describing the vitamin D potency of poultry feed preparations. Use of the new unit on labels will prevent misbranding, it says. (Industrial Standardization, July.)

Breeding Plants
For Insect
Resistance

The Journal of Economic Entomology, June, contains several articles on insect resistance in plants. In one, Ralph O. Snelling, of EPI, says the development of varieties of crop plants that are immune to insect attack and equal in yielding ability and quality to those now in use would be one of the most economical insect control measures because no special effort or expense is necessary on the part of growers. However, he goes on, immune varieties are so far very rare and what is called resistance may be only a low degree of susceptibility to insect attack. C. M. Packard, of E & P, writes on insect-resistant wheat and alfalfa.

Pure Cherry
Products

Pure cherry syrups, beverages, and ice-cream toppings may replace synthetics now widely used by some manufacturers, says an article by Donald K. Tressler, of the New York station, in Western Canner and Packer, July. Sweet cherry varieties such as Napoleon, Royal Ann, Black Tartarian, and Bing do not produce a strong enough cherry flavor for products, but sour or tart cherries, such as Montmorency and English Morello, are suited for flavoring bicarbonated drinks, ice creams and ice-cream sauces, says Tressler, who describes methods of making these cherry products.

Spring Wheat
Varieties

A Dictionary of Spring Wheat Varieties has been issued by the Northwest Crop Improvement Association in the interest of better quality grain in the spring wheat region, says Northwestern Miller, July 23. Information in the dictionary was compiled from bulletins of the USDA, State Experiment Stations, Canadian Department of Agriculture, and milling and grain companies.

Foodstuffs
For Britain

Empire Information says arrangements have been made whereby Australian and New Zealand foodstuffs will be shipped to western Canada in order that eastern Canada may release corresponding quantities for Britain. This is expected to save valuable time and shipping space. Incidents like this in the battle for world freedom suggest that the postwar period may see things of this kind done as a peace-time practice in facilitating international trade. (Northwestern Miller, July 23.)

Netherlands
Indies Exports
To U.S. At Peak

United States imports of merchandise from the Netherlands Indies reached an all-time high valuation in 1940, while exports to that country were the largest for any year since 1920, the Department of Commerce reports. Imports in 1940 were valued at \$169,074,000 compared with \$92,971,000 in 1939, and exports at \$53,781,000 against \$35,420,000. Crude rubber, valued at \$112,166,000, was the most important import in 1940, accounting for 67 percent of the total.

Government
Consumer
Services

A Directory of Governmental Consumer Services and Agencies, recently issued by Harriett Elliott, in charge of consumer protection of NDAC, is available from the Office of the Consumer Commissioner, NDAC, Washington, says Industrial Standardization, July. It includes lists of points at which grading service on dairy and poultry products is available, of meat-grading offices, and of canned-food standardization and inspection service offices.

Western Range
Re seeding

The plan of the U.S. Grazing Service to reseed more than half a million acres of public land in 10 Western States to grasses during 1941 is a valuable contribution to western agriculture, says Great Falls Tribune, July 22. The experimental phase is over and a permanent conservation plan for depleted western livestock ranges has been adopted. The goal this year is 50,000 acres of reseeded range in each of the 10 Western States. In addition to new grasses such as crested wheatgrass, the Grazing Service has collected over 100,000 pounds of native grass seed for sowing on lands where the plants were formerly abundant, says the Tribune.

Urges "Parity
Consumption"
Of Cotton

Declaring that parity prices without parity consumption will never bring the cotton farmer parity income, President Oscar Johnston of the National Cotton Council recently called on the cotton industry to support an intensified nation-wide drive for cotton markets, says a Memphis report in the Hallettsville (Tex.) Tribune, July 8. Parity price will avail us nothing if consumption is cut down through the loss of markets to powerful competitors, he said. The need for an aggressive program to promote the consumption of cotton is greater this year than it has been at any time during the past decade.

Compressed Wood

A method of making resin-treated, laminated, compressed wood, which has possible uses in airplane construction, flooring, paneling, and furniture, has recently been developed by the Forest Products Laboratory of the FS.

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 22.

Section 1

July 31, 1941.

TO REMEDY FARM LABOR SHORTAGE

OPM Directors Knudsen and Hillman yesterday promised immediate action to assist the Department of Agriculture in remedying shortages of farm labor, farm machinery, and food-processing machinery, in order to meet the food requirements of the British and other nations included in lend-lease benefits, says the Washington Post, July 31. The shortages were reported yesterday at a meeting with Agriculture Secretary Wickard, the Department's director of agricultural defense relations, M. Clifford Townsend, OEM Director Coy, and OPM officials. OPACS yesterday announced an increase in the allocation of sheet steel to builders of grain bins.

INCREASED SUGAR SUPPLIES

The Department yesterday announced an increase in sugar quota supplies for the calendar year 1941 and reallocation of deficits in the quotas of the mainland cane sugar area and Hawaii and in the duty-paying portion of the Philippine quota. This series of actions is expected to make available 7,769,621 tons of sugar to meet consumer needs. This has been done in part by an increase in the consumption determination from 7,627,563 short tons to 8,006,836 tons, raw value.

FS EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE TO TRANSFER

Forest Service regional headquarters for the Eastern Region (Region 7) will be transferred from Washington, D.C., to Upper Darby, Pennsylvania, as part of the Department program of further decentralization to relieve congestion in the national Capital, Secretary Wickard announced yesterday. The Region 7 office is headquarters for Department forestry work in New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Kentucky.

RESTRICT DEFENSE RESIGNATIONS

The Washington Post, July 31, says that after today a defense employee who resigns his job may not be placed in another Federal job for 90 days unless his request is accompanied by a letter of consent from the defense agency. The new regulation was made effective as of today by the Civil Service Commission.

Women, Children
Replace Male
Farm Labor

Farm mothers and children are working in the fields in increasing numbers in many parts of the nation, says the Chicago News, July 24. They are driving tractors, running combines, or tending hogs -- as well as their customary work of raising chickens, cooking, and milking -- because so many skilled farm hands have gone off to work in defense factories or to train for Uncle Sam. President Edward A. O'Neal of the A.F.B.F. recently said a "wide-spread farm labor shortage" existed in the Midwest, East, South, and Far West, especially in agricultural areas adjacent to large industrial centers.

Food For Defense
In New York

The New York City Department of Markets is completing the organization of its emergency home defense program, with special stress on the problem of primary food distribution, says Commissioner William Fellowes Morgan, Jr., whose annual report for 1940, in summarized form, was issued recently. The report also covers important phases of the department's activities for the first half of 1941. Commissioner Morgan is forming an advisory committee to prepare "statistical data and other information necessary to present a complete plan for food distribution in the event of an emergency," says the summary. (New York Times, July 28.)

Bressman Named
On Pan-American
Commission

Earl N. Bressman, Assistant Director of FAR, has been designated by President Roosevelt as the United States representative on the Inter-American Commission on Tropical Agriculture. This commission, created to plan an Inter-American Institute of Tropical Agriculture and to encourage rubber production in the Western Hemisphere, is headed by Hector David Castro, Minister to the United States from El Salvador. Until Bressman's appointment, the commission had no United States representative. (Agriculture in the Americas, August.)

Hemisphere Dairy
Development

Progress in the program to broaden the development of the dairy industry in the Western Hemisphere is reported by the Inter-American Committee for the Dairy Industries, says Agriculture in the Americas, August. Fifteen American Ministers of Agriculture have accepted membership on the Council of Sponsors. Information and exhibit programs have been launched.

Freight
By Air

For some time the Air Express Division of the Railway Express Agency and the U.S. Air Mail have split the air freight business, says Business Week, July 26. Now U.S. Freight Company has formed a subsidiary, Universal Air Freight Company, which will pick up shipments at New York City and Detroit.

Wood Post
Treatment

If long-lived steel fence posts run short, wood posts will have to be used, says Dakota Farmer, July 26. John Thompson, Extension forester for North Dakota, recommends a treatment against decay for the less durable Dakota woods such as aspen, ash, cottonwood, and elm. By taking thoroughly green, round posts with the bark on and forcing a solution of zinc chloride through the sapwood, the life of the post can be stretched to 12 years or more, at a cost of a few cents per post.

New Uses
For Jute

India, with outlets for her annual 5 billion pound jute crop reduced to about one-third of last year's, is searching for new uses for jute, says Science News Letter, July 26. A cotton-jute fabric with cotton warp and jute weft has proved promising as material for canvas for hose pipes, tarpaulins, and similar articles. Jute fabrics are being tested for road materials. Indian scientists are being urged to study chemical processes for producing rayon and paper from jute and mixed fabrics such as jute-wool.

Electric
Cooker
For Feed

An electric cooker for cull beans, musty grain, small potatoes, etc., developed at Michigan State College, has recently been placed on the market, says Electricity on the Farm, August. It looks like a small milk cooler cabinet, is insulated, and supplied with two 500-watt immersion heaters controlled by a thermostat. The feed with water is put in open cans which are placed in the tank. Steam cooks 100 to 150 pounds of feed in 18 to 24 hours.

Bark Beetle
Control Program

A bark-beetle control program that can save millions of board feet of lumber annually has been recommended by Department entomologists and foresters for lumbermen of California's eastside pine region. Department specialists estimate that during the last 15 years, beetles have destroyed more than $11\frac{1}{2}$ billion board feet of timber. Entomologists recommend: (1) early harvesting of timber in badly infested areas, (2) direct beetle control, and (3) sanitation-salvage (which converts infested trees into lumber before they are actually killed).

Cotton For
Sutures

The use of cotton thread as a suture material has been reported by Meade and Ochsner, says North American Veterinarian, August. The investigators report that cotton sutures are satisfactory, inexpensive, flexible, and readily available.

U.S.-Mexican
Trade Agreement

A Mexico, D.F., report in the Christian Science Monitor, July 26, says signing of the trade pact which provides for purchase by the United States of Mexico's surplus war materials gives powerful impetus to a movement whereby other American nations may find an outlet for their foreign trade. The pact was negotiated by Luciano Weichers for Mexico and Walter Douglas for the United States. Among articles affected by the pact are henequen, fibers, and cords and twines for both agricultural and war purposes.

Quick-Freezing
Food Process

A new system for quick freezing foods has been developed by the University of Texas, says Luis H. Bartlett, Bureau of Engineering Research, in Quick Frozen Foods, July. Unusually fast freezing is accomplished. The method is well adapted to quick freeze almost any foodstuff except liquids, pastes, or items having a large area of surface, such as leaf vegetables. Low cost and flexibility make it of particular interest to the small operator. It may be designed to process any amount of food up to 2,000 pounds an hour.

Poultry-Disease
Laboratory

A State Regional Poultry Disease Laboratory is being built at Harrisonburg, Virginia, center of the Shenandoah Valley poultry-producing area, says a report in American Egg and Poultry Review, July. The city is furnishing the land and the Federal Government has allotted \$13,863.

Self-Service
Meat Cuts

A chain-store company has established a self-service meat department where customers can pick up cellophane-wrapped cuts of meat as they do groceries, says Quick Frozen Foods, July. Each cut has the name, weight, price per pound, and total price. It is doubtful, says the periodical, whether prepackaging of fresh meats on a self-service basis is satisfactory because of shrinkage and package deterioration due to handling.

Japan's Export
Cotton Trade
Decreasing

Much of Japan's export trade in cotton textiles -- the world's greatest in "bulk lines" until about five years ago -- may be lost regardless of the war's outcome, the Department of Agriculture says in a report in July Foreign Agriculture. Cotton manufacturers in India are rapidly expanding mill capacity and textile export trade. British cotton textile industry has been re-organized to offer strong post-war competition. Wartime expansion of Continental European/rayon industries is likely to result in greatly increased post-war competition with cotton textiles. Competition from Japan already has declined in virtually all oriental markets.

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 23.

Section 1

August 1, 1941.

ECONOMIC DEFENSE BOARD

President Roosevelt set up by executive order yesterday the Economic Defense Board, which will head the nation's trade and financial fight against the Axis powers and prepare America for possible post-war reaction, says the New York Herald Tribune, August 1. With Vice President Wallace as chairman, the board will establish policies for control of exports and imports, frozen foreign assets, preclusive buying, and all measures relating to national defense in the international economic field. Other members are Secretary Hull, Secretary Morgenthau, Jr., Secretary Stimson, Secretary Knox, Secretary Wickard, the Attorney General (not yet nominated), and Secretary Jones.

N.Y. COUNTIES TO GET DUTY-FREE HAY AND STRAW

Secretary Wickard yesterday designated ten counties in New York State as being in the drouth affected area. The designation was made to the Secretary of the Treasury in accordance with the July 25 proclamation of President Roosevelt authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to remove the duty from forage for such drouth counties as the Secretary of Agriculture might name. This would apply to forage from Canada. Secretary Wickard requested that hay and straw be designated as the types of forage to be imported free of duty. The present tariff on imported hay is \$2.50 per ton of 2000 pounds; on imported straw it is 75¢ per ton. Steps by which drouth-stricken farmers may get the hay or straw will be announced soon. The counties are Niagara, Oswego, Jefferson, St. Lawrence, Lewis, Franklin, Clinton, Washington, Saratoga, and Essex.

MD. MAY DEFER AGRICULTURAL STUDENTS

Because of the growing shortage of farm workers and farm produce, Maryland draft boards yesterday were advised that they have ample authority to defer students of agriculture as "men in training or preparation for" necessary occupations, says the Baltimore Sun, August 1. Deferment of agricultural students was advocated by Lieut.-Col. Henry C. Stanwood, State director of selective service. He said "such consideration must be given in view of a recent statement by Secretary Wickard, which pointed out that the problem of agricultural production already is very serious in some areas."

REA Issues
Two Films

Two short films, following the general theme of Power and the Land, have been released through REA, says Rural Electrification News, June. Bip Goes to Town is the story of a small boy on an un-electrified farm who learns through a trip to town what electricity can do for farms. The Worst of Farm Disasters tells the story of the farm fire hazard. Prints are obtainable from the Information Division, REA, Washington.

Electrically
Cooled Milk

Electrically cooled milk stays fresh and pure, gets top grade rating and prices at the creamery, says Rural Electrification News, June. Cooling costs about 10 cents a day for 10 gallons of milk, including depreciation and operation. Electric cooling is clean, convenient, and easier to obtain and 75 percent cheaper than ice.

U.C. To Have
"Vet" College

Governor Olson of California on July 9 signed a bill appropriating \$500,000 for the establishment of a college of veterinary medicine at the University of California, says North American Veterinarian, August. Tentative plans for a six-year course have been made by J. H. Corley, university comptroller.

Farm Price
Index Up

Advancing 7 points during the month ended July 15, the general level of prices received by farmers reached 125 percent of the 1910-14 average, the Department reports. With marked improvement in domestic demand and new legislation affecting farm prices favorably, the all-commodities index has risen 22 points since March 15 and 30 points since July 15, 1940. Supplies of nearly all agricultural products continue abundant.

Frozen Grass
For Poultry

A specially prepared cereal grass for poultry is described by C. A. Denton and H. W. Titus, in the U.S. Egg and Poultry Magazine, August. The grass was cut at an early stage of growth and ground to a puttylike mass, after which it was frozen and kept under refrigeration until used. The frozen grass was prepared for feeding in two ways. In one it was thawed and fed promptly. In the other it was thawed, dried, ground, and mixed with an all-mash laying diet.

Name Wright
On FCIC Staff

Appointment of J. Carl Wright, Sentinel, Oklahoma, as assistant to Leroy K. Smith, manager of the FCIC, has been announced by the Department. I. W. Duggan, director of the Southern Division of the AAA, has announced that H. P. Moffitt has returned to his former position as state administrative officer in charge of the AAA program in Oklahoma, succeeding Wright.

OPM Speeds
REA Program

Farm electrification will be spurred by an OPM allocation program designed to make up a five-month lag in the REA construction program, says the New York Journal of Commerce, August 1. For six months beginning August 1, REA will receive each month 4,500 tons of copper, 3,100 tons of steel, 140 tons of zinc, and 3 1/2 tons of aluminum.

How Poultry
Converts Feed
Into Meat

The efficiency with which feed is converted into poultry meat varies widely among different kinds of poultry, among different breeds of the same kind, among different strains of the same breed, and among different ages of the same strain, Morlay A. Jull, University of Maryland, said in an address at the recent N.P.I.P meeting. Some strains of chickens are able to attain a weight of 3 pounds per bird at 12 weeks of age on a feed consumption of about 10 pounds of feed per bird, whereas other strains of the same breed may require about 13 pounds of feed to produce a 3-pound bird at 12 weeks. (U.S. Egg and Poultry Magazine, August.)

FSA Head
On Rural
Poverty

C. B. Baldwin, Farm Security Administrator, recently told a congressional committee that the national defense program, with its re-employment of millions, has not yet made any substantial inroads into rural poverty, according to an AP report in the Christian Science Monitor, July 29. "Greatest effects of defense activity," he said, "have been in areas where the most defense work is concentrated. Unfortunately, there has been least defense activity in these very regions where there has been most need for FSA assistance." The FSA chief gave the committee a general report on the effects of the national emergency on work of the FSA and on the farm labor supply.

Land Use
Planning
Committees

Farmers should not be caught unprepared for the damaging aftermath that follows war, says an editorial in Country Gentleman, August. "One reason is the wise action taken by Secretary of Agriculture Wickard in requesting the State Land Use Planning Committees to prepare programs to meet the impacts of war," it says. "It is understood the State committee reports will be made available through the County Land Use Planning Committees...No such planning for emergency conditions was ever made in this country before or was even possible. The machinery for it did not exist until these State and county planning committees were created. The results may provide an answer to the question whether a democracy can plan ahead."

"American Choice"
In Spanish

Vice President Wallace's book, The American Choice, has recently been made available to Mexican readers in Spanish, says Mexican-American Review, August, in an editorial which reviews the book.

Radiophones
Aid Mappers

Short-wave radiophones developed by the Forest Service have other uses besides that of forest-fire fighting. The most recent request for them was from the American Geographical Society for use on an expedition that will explore and map an area about 200 miles northwest of White Horse near the Canadian-Alaska boundary this summer. The radiophones weigh 21 pounds and have a range of 20 miles. Some of them will be dropped by parachutes with other supplies in localities that the mapping party may not reach until some weeks later.

Blood Groups
In Cattle

Recent experimental work indicates there are at least eighteen heritable blood groups in domestic cattle, says the A.M.A. Journal, July 26. Indeed, L. C. Ferguson, of the University of Wisconsin Department of Veterinary Science, believe there are as many groups in cattle as there are bovine chromosomes. His work is of prophetic clinical interest, says the Journal, since it suggests a possible future multiplicity of recognized human blood groups.

Food From
Latin America

Five-sixths of our food budget in Latin America is being spent for coffee, sugar, bananas, cocoa beans, and canned beef, says F. H. Rawls, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, in an article, Foods the Americas Buy and Sell, in August Agriculture in the Americas. All of them are products of which we produce either none or less than enough for our own needs, but they compose by no means a complete list of the products we need to complement our own agricultural production. If our Latin American foodstuffs trade can be spread over more countries and more commodities, we will be greatly increasing the market for both the manufactured goods and the farm products that we sell elsewhere in the Americas, he says.

Herb
Growing

Florists Exchange editors, in the July 19 issue, report that they have received more inquiries on herb growing, through a short article published some weeks ago, than they have ever received before from any article. A series of articles on herb growing will begin in the next issue, they say.

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 24.

Section 1

August 4, 1941.

WICKARD
PLEDGES AID
TO NORWAY

In celebration of the sixty-ninth birthday of King Haakon, Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard made a short-wave broadcast last night direct to the people of Norway from Station WRUL at Boston, says the New York Times, August 4. He pledged them the sympathy and help of the people of the United States. "Food is strength, and our objective is food for all defenders of freedom," declared Secretary Wickard, after having recalled that great numbers of Norwegians had settled in this country during the last half-century and had played a leading part in developing the farming districts of the Middle West.

EMERGENCY
PLAN FOR
RAYON YARN

An emergency program requiring rayon yarn producers to set aside immediately an amount of yarn stocks on hand for allocation among manufacturers of hosiery and other products heretofore made largely or wholly of silk, was announced yesterday by OPACS, says the New York Journal of Commerce, August 4. The new program, designed to avert complete dislocation of the silk hosiery and civilian silk weaving industry, now threatened by suspension of all civilian silk processing, requires that the types of yarn set aside shall be those adaptable to the manufacture of hosiery and other products normally made of silk. Price Administrator Henderson also issued a schedule of ceiling prices for the principal grades of raw silk and silk waste.

BRITISH
ECONOMY
REPORT

Great Britain holds lessons for the United States in price control and economic mobilization, says James Frederick Green, research associate of the Foreign Policy Association. In a report, Britain's Wartime Economy, 1940-41, Green revealed that before the Government intervened, the general cost of living in Britain had increased 28 percent from September 1939 to March 1941. Clothing prices jumped 72 percent during that period. In the first 20 months of the war, the wholesale price of food in Britain rose 60 percent and that of industrial materials and manufactures 51.1 percent, Green said. (New York Journal of Commerce, August 4.)

Double-Capacity
Refrigerator Car

Citrus growers and packing house managers are interested in a new type of refrigerator car shown recently in Los Angeles County, says California Cultivator, July 26. It has a capacity of 924 boxes, or twice that of the ordinary 462-box refrigerator car; 90,000 pounds against 65,000 pounds. The new freight car is about five feet longer than the conventional type and has four doorways instead of two, with a permanent partition across the center. Ice bunkers over the whole top of the car hold 13,500 pounds of ice, against 10,000 pounds in the old-type car.

Original
Delicious
Tree Dies

From Winterset, Iowa, comes the news that the original Delicious apple tree has succumbed to injuries suffered last winter, says Florists Exchange, July 19. The tree, one of a number of seedlings set out in 1872, was surrounded by a strong fence for many years and it is possible that a young tree will replace the old one, as suckers have appeared, one of which will be encouraged to grow.

New Daily
Weather Map

A new type of daily weather map, simpler and more graphic than the old one, is being put into service by the Weather Bureau, says Science Service. It is being issued only for Washington, D.C., at present, but will be extended later to other cities. The most striking change in the new map is the substitution of symbols indicating position and movements of air masses for the familiar concentric ellipses of isobars and isotherms of weather maps now in use. The Weather Bureau supplies a code which in 148 symbols and combinations states all possible types of weather.

Pan American
Road Congress

The Fourth Pan American Highway Congress, the Second Inter American Travel Congress, and the Pan American Highway Exposition will meet simultaneously in Mexico City, September 15-24, says an article in Mexican-American Review, August.

Mexican Farm
Collective
Conference

Among representatives of the United States to the Fourth Conference on Collective Cooperative Farming, to be held at La Laguna, Mexico, August 4-6, are two from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, says an article in Mexican-American Review, August. This communally owned region (Laguna) in northern Mexico lies about 200 miles west of Monterrey and includes parts of the States of Durango and Coahuila in its 6,000 square miles of semi-desert land. One hundred and sixty thousand peasants, formerly peones in the old haciendas of the region, today are organized into about 300 collective farms, called ejidos, says the article.

Interstate
Trade Barriers

Writing on interstate trade barriers, in Taxes for August, L. L. Waters, University of Kansas, says the BAE report, Barriers to Internal Trade in Farm Products, has done much to stimulate interest in the problem. Other branches of the Federal Government, he continues, also have attacked the problem. The Department of Commerce established the Interdepartmental Committee on Interstate Trade Barriers, to operate with the States. A marketing laws survey of the WPA was devoted to research in this field.

Corn Borer
Control

A new high-clearance, self-propelled hydraulic sprayer for use in corn borer control experiments has been installed at the Toledo, Ohio, field station of AC & E, says the bureau News Letter, July. The machine performed satisfactorily in field trials.

Imported
Feedstuffs
For Britain

Supplies of imported feeding stuffs next winter will be very short, says the Journal of the British Ministry of Agriculture, June. It has been estimated that, of the total nutrients consumed by farm animals before the war, some 60 percent were derived from British grassland either as grazing or hay, 14 percent from home-grown cereals and root crops, and a further 1 percent from byproducts such as brewers grains, fish and meat meals. The remaining 25 percent, estimated at about 8 million tons, had to be imported in the form of cereals or oilseed products. To maintain our stock in the accustomed way, says the Journal, would entail additional home supplies of nutrients equivalent in feeding value to 8 million tons of imported feeds if complete self-sufficiency is to be attained, and correspondingly less according to the amount of imported supplies, mainly the byproducts of flour milling and oilseed crushing.

FSA Borrowers
Repay Over
Third of Loans

More than a third of all money loaned by the FSA to more than 900,000 farm families has been repaid, although a large part of it is not yet due, says a report by C. B. Baldwin, FSA administrator. These families borrowed approximately \$570,000,000, and already have repaid nearly \$200,000,000. More than 122,000 borrowers have repaid in full and the FSA estimates at least 80 percent of the total amount loaned eventually will be repaid.

Loans For
Flue-Cured
Tobacco

The Department has announced a CCC program for flue-cured tobacco authorizing purchases for export trade and loans to producers at rates equal to 85 percent of parity. The authorization permits 225 million pounds of tobacco to be taken from the 1941 crop.

Fewer Farm
Foreclosures

Fewer farms were sold at foreclosure in the first quarter of 1941 than in any similar period during the past 7 years, the Department reports. An estimated 4,275 such sales occurred in the first 3 months of 1941, compared with 4,605 in the last quarter of 1940, the previous low mark. The trend in foreclosures has been steadily downward every year since 1934 when FCA began collecting this data.

Civil Service
Examinations

No. 188, unassembled--principal economist \$5,600, senior economist \$4,600, economist \$3,800, associate economist \$3,200, assistant economist \$2,600, any specialized branches. No. 115, unassembled--junior veterinarian \$2,000, BAI. No. 119--junior soil conservationist \$2,000, SCS.

First Loans
On '41 Wheat

The Department has announced that CCC through July 22 advanced \$1,449,870 in loans to producers on 1,477,948 bushels of 1941 wheat in 13 states. The loans are the first made under provisions of the 85 percent of parity program for wheat.

Dehydration
Of Foods
For Defense

Investigations of commercial dehydration of foods for emergency defense are to be expanded in studies of the Department of Agriculture, says a report in Northwestern Miller, July 30. The studies will be carried on chiefly at the Western Regional Research Laboratory. Investigations will include not only methods and equipment for dehydration, factors affecting color and flavor, but also two more recently recognized factors in dehydration, ways to preserve vitamins, and crop varieties especially suited to dehydration. Products to receive first attention, as requested by the Army and Navy, include tomatoes, onions, white potatoes, carrots, leafy vegetables, green peas, green and wax beans, lima beans, celery, squash, citrus juices, apricots, prunes, and apples.

Periodic
Promotion
Bill Signed

President Roosevelt Saturday signed the Ramspeck-Mead bill providing periodic promotions for employees under the classified Civil Service and issued an executive order that will translate the benefits of the legislation to personnel whose pay is fixed by the emergency order rates set up seven years ago to cover workers in non-civil service emergency agencies and others paid from emergency funds, says the Washington Star, August 3. Promotions of one step within a grade are provided at 18-month periods for employees receiving less than \$3,800 and every 30 months for those over that figure and under \$9,000. Efficiency ratings of good or better will be required to qualify for the promotions.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 25.

Section 1

August 5, 1941.

COTTON LOAN PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

A cotton loan program based on the recently enacted 85 percent of parity law was announced yesterday by Secretary Wickard. Cotton producers cooperating with the AAA program will be eligible for loans on their entire 1941 cotton production at a rate based on 85 percent of parity price as of August 1, the beginning of the 1941 marketing year. The average loan rate on 7/8-inch middling cotton gross weight will be 14.02 cents per pound compared with 8.90 cents last year. Differentials for grade, staple, and location will be calculated in relation to the loan rate on 15/16-inch middling cotton. The average loan rate for 15/16-inch middling cotton, net weight, will be 14.82 cents per pound.

WICKARD ON ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY

Secretary of Agriculture Wickard told the House Rivers and Harbors Committee yesterday that the proposed St. Lawrence seaway would put American farmers in a better position to compete for world markets when the war is over. Mr. Wickard said that what will happen to the farmer's market when the war is over "depends on who wins the war." "In any event," he said, "we should be prepared to compete for world markets when the war is over. All of us are determined to do everything practical to hold and regain our foreign customers on a permanently sound basis. Certainly reductions in transportation costs would increase the ability of American farmers to compete in the world market." (New York Times, August 5.)

WORLD WHEAT CONGRESS REPORTS PROGRESS

Officials of five leading wheat-producing countries announced progress yesterday in solving international wheat problems, including establishment of an ever-normal granary and a large pool of relief wheat for post-war use. In session at Washington since July 10, officials of Argentina, Australia, Canada, Great Britain, and the United States, recessed until August 18. Through the State Department they announced that "a provisional draft agreement is being submitted to governments forthwith, together with a request for instructions which will enable the delegates to prepare a definite text when they reconvene." (New York Times, August 5.)

Set Prices
On Douglas
Fir Plywood

Price Administrator Henderson has announced the setting of ceiling prices on Douglas fir plywood and the logs from which such plywood is made, partially to undo the effects of recent price advances, says the Washington Post, August 2. Henderson also announced he would soon set maximum price limits on various grades of southern shortleaf pine. The price ceiling on the Douglas fir products, he said, will fix levels at the prevailing selling figures on or about May 1.

Rejects CEA
Cotton Margin
Proposal

The proposal of the Commodity Exchange Administration for establishment of general minimum margin requirements of 15 percent of the purchase or sale price of commodity futures contracts which come under its jurisdiction has been rejected by the special committee of the New York Cotton Exchange which was set up to study the proposal, says the New York Journal of Commerce, August 4. The report of the committee holds that arbitrary plans that would smother reasonable speculation are contrary to the interest of the cotton grower and the cotton trade.

Metal Allocated
To REA For
Construction

Action to enable the REA to continue its construction program, now five months behind schedule, has been taken by OPACS in a limited allocation plan under which specific amounts of metals will be made available during the next six months, says the New York Journal of Commerce, August 2. Extension of electric facilities in rural areas is of primary importance to the farm population and carrying out of present REA plans is considered by OPACS to be essential to the maintenance of public welfare and civilian morale.

"Million
Pine Farm"

A Negro owned and operated forest and farm tract at Log Cabin Center, Georgia, provides a lesson for rural teachers in the usefulness of Twentieth Century farm practices, says an AP report in the Atlanta Constitution, July 30. Named the Million Pine Farm, because there are more than 1,000,000 pine trees on its 866 acres, it is being used to train vocational and high school teachers. The owner, William Heath, when he took over the farm about two years ago, began systematic thinning out of undesirable trees and developed measures for prevention of fires.

Paper Board
Price Increased

Price Administrator Leon Henderson has announced a \$2.50 a ton increase in base prices of paper board east of the Rocky Mountains, to conform to rises in the price of waste paper, the principal raw material. (New York Times, August 5.)

BHE Designs
Cotton, Lisle
Hosiery

Miss Ruth O'Brien, chief of the clothing and textile division of the Bureau of Home Economics, who has directed three years of Government research leading to the development of stylish cotton hosiery, said recently that American mills are ready to manufacture 40,000,000 dozen pair a year. "We are ready to shift over to the manufacture of cotton hosiery at once," she said. "More than 85 percent of the mills now manufacturing silk stockings can change immediately to cotton. There will be no shortage of stockings." (Washington Times Herald, August 3.)

A Science Service report says a small textile plant has been set up at the Beltsville center, and many different designs for stockings have been made in "swatches." The Division of Textile Technology of BHE is preparing a Dictionary of Cotton and Lisle Hosiery, which will eventually include 300 designs. Of these, 33 have already been made available to the hosiery trade.

Farm Prospects
Continue Good

Domestic market prospects for most farm commodities continue good, the Department reports in a summary of the current agricultural situation. The general level of prices received by farmers may average nearly 20 percent higher this year than last. Most favored by price increases will be producers of meat animals; least favored, growers of fruit and miscellaneous crops. Income from farm marketings during the first half of this year totaled 4,005 million dollars, up 591 million over the same period last year. Gains in income from live-stock and livestock products accounted for all but 20 million dollars of the increase. During the last half, however, income from crops is expected to total much more than in the last half of 1940.

Canadian
Wheat Tax
Ended

Canadian Trade Minister, J. A. Mackinnon has announced that the wheat processing tax of 15 cents a bushel ended July 31 and would not operate in the new crop year. Mackinnon said lapsing of the tax would avoid a threatened increase in the price of bread in Canada. The tax had been in effect for one year. (CP report in New York Herald Tribune, August 1.)

FSA Region
Relocates
Farm Families

Expansion of its program to prevent dislocation of rural life and farm production in the Southeast under impact of defense activities has been announced by FSA officials in the Fifth Region (Georgia, Alabama, Florida, and South Carolina) says a report in the Atlanta Constitution, July 27. Of 2,814 farm families in the four States forced to leave their homes when large tracts of land were acquired for defense industries and Army sites, 2,627 have been relocated on farm land and staked to a new start.

Md. Defense
Houses Movable

An Indian Head (Md.) report in the Baltimore Sun, July 30, says a 3-room prefabricated bungalow at the Indian Head Defense Housing Project was recently taken apart in three hours, loaded onto trucks carted over 40 miles of road, and erected on a new site a quarter of a mile from where it originally stood. The experiment was the first of eleven scheduled in this village of 640 prefabricated houses. Although the concrete blocks of the original foundation and the bricks of the chimney were not used at the new site, they were salvaged as part of the experiment.

Wood Gas,
Alcohol
For Fuel

An AP report from Rio de Janeiro in the New York Times, August 5, says the Government is turning to wood gas and alcohol for fuel because lack of transport has crippled Brazil's petroleum importing business. Ten percent of all transport vehicles, trucks, and buses, by government decree, must burn wood gas. Acting Minister of Agriculture Carlos de Spuza Duarte plans to put gasogene propulsion into agricultural machinery as well.

Tea Supplies
To Be Ample

Tea has been classified as a civilian necessity by OPACS and will continue to be available, Benjamin Wood, managing director of the Tea Bureau, has announced. The commodity has been placed in a classification sufficiently high to insure adequate imports under usual conditions, he said. The classification will continue in effect for six months, starting September 1. (New York Times, August 5.)

Shipping
Cooperation

M. Clifford Townsend, Director, Office of Agricultural Defense Relations, has been appointed by Secretary Wickard to serve as Department liaison officer with the Division of Emergency Shipping, U. S. Maritime Commission. Chairman E. S. Land, of the Commission, asked that official liaison be established so that agriculture's shipping problems may be handled effectively.

Post-War
Farm Problems

In a survey of post-war agricultural problems, Country Life (London, June 14) plans a series of eight articles on erosion and food supplies, the political issue, land tenure and the structure of prices, a new educational policy, research and the farmer, good husbandry in the twentieth century, practical agricultural systems, and a summary by Sir John Russell.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 26.

Section 1

August 6, 1941.

BOLL WEEVIL
THREATENS
COTTON CROP

An AP report from Memphis to the New York Herald Tribune, August 6, says the boll-weevil threat in the Cotton Belt is the worst since 1923. R. R. Childs, Georgia Extension agronomist, estimated the toll would run to \$23,000,000, or about 20 percent of the yield from cotton and cottonseed. In almost every other State, officials agreed that infestation was heavy but pointed out that the next few weeks can greatly change the picture. Except in southern portions of the belt, destruction is not complete and hot, dry weather would greatly reduce the damage, says the report.

SALTER TO HEAD
SOILS AND
FERTILIZER WORK

Robert M. Salter has been appointed to head the Division of Soil and Fertilizer Investigations in the BPI, effective October. This division comprises the former Divisions of Soil Chemistry and Physics, Fertilizer Research, and Soil Microbiology. During the past year Salter has been director of the North Carolina Experiment Station. He is nationally known in soils work. His new duties in the Department will consist of directing research in soil microbiology, legume inoculants, fertilizer manufacture and use, and investigations on soils with special reference to productivity and its problems as applied to managing soils to maintain crop production.

USDA DEVELOPS
150 COTTON
HOSIERY DESIGNS

The Department announced yesterday that more than 150 different cotton stocking designs are now available to the hosiery industry as a result of investigation by the Bureau of Home Economics at Beltsville. David H. Young, textile technologist, has developed full-fashioned cotton hosiery designs for every occasion. These vary from cotton-web mesh for evening wear to plain knits in various weights for sports' wear and around the house and garden.

EXCESS COTTON
PENALTY 7 CENTS

The Department today announced that the penalty rate on 1941 cotton marketed in excess of the farm marketing quota will be 7 cents per pound. The 1940 penalty rate was 3 cents a pound.

New Product
From Whey

Dairy Industries (London, May) reports that Smillie and Wight, of Scotland Agricultural College, have discovered a way of utilizing whey which promises to have far-reaching results in the dairy industry. It consists in the manufacture from whey of a new product which is said to be indistinguishable in appearance, flavor, acidity, and other properties from first-quality buttermilk. The process has been worked out on a semi-commercial scale. The new product is said to be just what the British baking and ice cream trade needs, now that the use of whole milk, condensed milk, or milk powder is banned.

British
Fertilizer
Policy

To formulate a fertilizer policy which will insure maximum agricultural production and make the best use of available fertilizer supplies, all published results of one-year fertilizer experiments conducted since 1900 in Great Britain on the main arable crops, and of similar experiments in other northern European countries, have been summarized, say Crowther and Yates, of the Rothamsted Station, in the Empire Journal of Experimental Agriculture, April. They report that the main conclusions are: responses to phosphate and potash are substantially reduced when dung is applied but crops are equally responsive to inorganic nitrogen on dunged and un-dunged land; considerable increases in agricultural production would result from greater use of nitrogen; additional phosphate is needed for root crops; the general policy of making fertilizers in short supply available only for the most responsive crops is correct; responses to phosphate and potash vary markedly with soils and districts.

To Establish
Big Bend
National Park

One of the last great wildernesses of Texas is slated to become the Nation's fifth largest National Park, known as Big Bend, says a report in the Christian Science Monitor, August 1.

Assurance of the establishment of this "good neighbor" park, lying along the Texas-Mexican border, was given recently when Governor O'Daniel of Texas signed a bill appropriating \$1,500,000 for purchase of necessary lands on the American side. Park Service officials believe Mexico will establish its share of the park, which is expected to include nearly 800,000 acres on the United States side and 500,000 in Mexico.

Rouge, New
House Plant

The University of New Hampshire has developed an excellent new house plant, the Rouge, says the Manchester Union, July 25. The new plant is easy to grow and produces pannicles of tiny white flowers which are followed by shiny red berries. Rouge plants thrive at a temperature maintained in most homes through the winter.

Disease Of
Red Scale

A new disease of citrus red scale, a serious pest in California orchards, has been discovered by Sokoloff and Klotz of the California Citrus Experiment Station, says Science News Letter, August 2. It is caused by a bacterium that lives in the soil. Studies are now under way to determine whether the disease can be encouraged to attack the scale by means of spraying or otherwise spreading the bacterial spores.

Insulating
Method
For Concrete

A novel method for putting heat-insulating air spaces into a concrete wall is being used in erection of a WPA warehouse in Bismarck, North Dakota, says Science News Letter, August 2. Short lengths of split green cottonwood logs are set, like bricks, into the wet concrete. The green wood shrinks and decays, leaving the spaces practically empty. The method is economical and produces a wall stronger than hollow tile and better insulated, constructors say. The method has been used in farm buildings in the region but this is its first introduction into public buildings.

Meat Institute
Grading System

Committees of the American Meat Institute, after careful study of the institute standard beef grading system and the revised USDA standards for grades of carcass beef, have recommended to cattle processors that all steer, heifer, and cow dressed beef be graded into 10 grades, indicating relative quality, conformation, and finish, says National Provisioner, August 2. The new institute system does not contemplate branding beef as to sex.

Contract
Farming

Many farmers in the Salt River and Imperial Valleys now supplement their income and decrease their overhead by contract farming, says an article in Arizona Farmer, August 2. In addition, about a dozen large contractors are exclusively in the custom business, and a few specialize in small-acreage jobs. Studies in 1940 by N. O. Thompson, University of Arizona, indicate that contract farming has a sound economic basis and is bound to spread. The study covered 34 farms from 30 to 600 acres, having 43 tractors in all. Sixty percent of the plowing in this area is done by contractors, it was found.

Microfilms For
Libraries

The need of going to reference libraries to consult the literature has decreased greatly in the United States in recent years, says Atherton Seidell, National Institute of Health, in Science, August 1. He suggests that publicly supported reference libraries eventually may perform microfilm copying for those engaged in research as freely as they now make interlibrary or other loans and provide facilities for consulting their books in their own reading rooms.

Test For
Stock Sprays

To test in the laboratory the effectiveness of livestock sprays under practical farm conditions, B E & P Q has developed a spraying method that gives the flies as much chance to survive as they would get on the average dairy farm. The flies are sprayed with a definite quantity of the insecticide being tested, and are then put in a cabinet through which passes a current of spray-free air, as would be the condition on the barn floor. By working with cages containing definite numbers of flies, the bureau makes records of the numbers affected, duration of the effects, rates of recovery. Similar methods might be used to get further information on the effectiveness of household sprays as well. (American Butter Review, July.)

Drug Legislation
Promotes Research

Enactment of the new drug section of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act has provided a powerful impetus to drug research, says Theodore G. Klumpp, of FDA, in Science, August 1. For the first time in our national history thorough investigation of the safety of drugs before they are marketed has been made compulsory. The problems of drug research are more complex than they used to be, he says. The investigator is indispensable but he must have the tools to work with and the help of assistants who will act as test pilots for his ideas. There must be cooperation among chemists, physicists, physiologists, pharmacologists, and clinicians to produce results in the drug industry.

Wool Auctions
For Farm Clips

The rapid rise of wool auctions in the range West has focussed attention on the possibilities of this method of marketing in the Middle West, says O. A. Fitzgerald in Western Farm Life, August 1. In Australia, where around 95 percent of the wool is sold through auctions, classifying stations are set up to prepare small clips when it is not feasible to classify the wool at the shearing plant. The cooperatives and wool assembly centers in this country could grade and classify the farm clips into suitable selling lines for the auction. The fact that the farm-flock cooperatives already are grading and classing wool gives them a distinct advantage over the range sellers, says Fitzgerald.

Truck Needs
For Farmers

The National Grange has presented to the NDAC an estimate of the number of motor trucks that agriculture will need to function efficiently during the next 12 months, says Western Farm Life, August 1. Approximately one-fourth of the more than 4,000,000 motor trucks registered in the United States are on farms. The average annual production of trucks during the past two years was 740,000. Assuming that one-fourth of these trucks were purchased by farmers, agriculture will need about 185,000 during the coming year. It should be borne in mind, however, that this figure represents purchases made under normal conditions.

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Section 1

August 7, 1941.

APPLEBY, EVANS
TO VISIT
GREAT BRITAIN

Secretary Wickard yesterday announced that Under Secretary Paul H. Appleby and R. M. Evans, AAA Administrator, will visit Great Britain in the near future to study the agricultural situation in that country. They are making the trip on the invitation of the British Government. They will be accompanied by Lloyd V. Steere, U. S. agricultural attache, who is returning to his post in London.

OPACS OFFICIAL
ADVOCATES
PRICE CONTROL

Sounding a warning to the farmers of the nation against the approach of inflation, J. K. Galbraith, assistant administrator in charge of the price division of OPACS, yesterday advocated price control as the only remedy to avert disaster to agriculture, says the New York Journal of Commerce, August 7. Speaking on "What inflation means to the farmer," at the annual Oklahoma farm and home week, Galbraith pointed to past disasters brought about by inflation of prices and asserted that "the tandem hitch of inflation and war are again driving over the world."

WOOL MARGINS
ADOPTED

The board of governors of the Wool Associates of the New York Cotton Exchange, operating the wool top and grease wool futures markets, yesterday adopted margin requirements effective, August 8, says the New York Journal of Commerce, August 7. In both grease wool and wool top futures, initial margin requirements will be not less than \$500 per contract.

SUGAR UP TO
23-MONTH HIGH

The price of raw sugar advanced yesterday 5 points to 3.70 cents, delivered at New York, as refiners purchased all available supplies at that basis, says the New York Journal of Commerce, August 7. That was the highest price since September 1939, immediately following the outbreak of war, when the market jumped to 3.95 cents and refined moved up to 5.75 cents.

Rubber For
Defense

Effective immediately, Rubber Reserve Company will make crude rubber available to the manufacturing industry at the dock or warehouse, New York City, at 22 1/2 cents a pound for No. LX ribbed smoked sheets, with appropriate differentials for other types and grades, Jesse Jones, Federal Loan Administrator, announced yesterday. Defense needs must have first consideration, it was asserted, but by careful use of rubber, necessary civilian requirements can be met. (New York Journal of Commerce, August 7.)

Substitute
Materials
In Industry

In one of a series of special reports, United States News, in the August 8 issue, discusses "ersatz, a new problem for American Industry." American industries, it says, are redoubling efforts to find substitutes for supplies once obtained from mines, mills, and farms. To find and develop these substitute materials, producers are turning to the nation's chemists, who prefer to speak of "replacements," and cite the industry's doubled output in the last 10 years as proof of the fact that synthetic materials have replaced textiles, metals, wood, glass, and bone in many fields. The article discusses synthetic rubber and fibers, plastics, and plywood.

Spray Hastens
Potato Maturity

A new means of hastening the maturity of potatoes has been successfully used on an experimental scale by the Parma branch station of the University of Idaho, says Washington Farmer, July 31. The system involves killing the tops by use of a spray. In high altitudes a common hazard is freezing of the ground before the potatoes are dug. The interval between the first killing frost and freezing of the ground is often quite short, and in the case of early potatoes, delay in digging caused by slow maturing of the tubers may put the harvest into a poor season for marketing. One of the most effective sprays used at the Parma station is a solution of ammonium sulphate, one pound to a gallon of water, 200 gallons of spray to an acre.

Rate Reduction
Benefits
Stock Shippers

A rate reduction designed to benefit livestock shippers has been granted by the railroads, effective August 1, says Washington Farmer, July 31. Sale-in-transit privileges will be accorded to shippers of stocker and feeder animals at the central markets at the through 85-percent stocker and feeder rates for origin to destination. F. E. Mollin, secretary of the National Livestock Association, said the new reduction will make the 85 percent rates universally applicable. The railroads are establishing the rate concession experimentally for one year, to discover whether or not increased traffic under the new schedule will justify its continuation.

Manchurian
Farm Aid

A Dairen report to the Christian Science Monitor, August 2, says Manchurian farmers, mostly Chinese, whose purchasing power declined from an index of 124 in 1937 to 63 in 1939, have slumped in productivity to such a degree that the Manchurian Government will pay farm bounties. New official purchasing prices for agricultural products are combined with the bounties in an effort to encourage cereal production. A bounty of 1 yuan (23 U.S. cents) is to be paid on every 200 pounds of cereal purchased from the farmer. A 3 yuan increase (from 19.60 to 22.60) in the purchasing price of wheat has been introduced because of increased production cost.

Lumber Needs,
Consumption

Lumber consumption in July, including national defense requirements, is estimated by the National Lumber Manufacturers Association at 2,847 million feet. Consumption in the first six months of 1941 is estimated at 15,736 million feet, or 18 percent above the first half of 1940. Certain species of lumber are becoming more difficult to obtain. There are now shortages of dry stocks and limited supplies of such items as box grades, thick shop lumber, thick oak and ash, mahogany, and specialty hardwood and softwood items. (Southern Lumberman, August 1.)

Treatments
For Wool

A method for gasproofing wool uniforms has been announced at the Wool Industries Research Laboratory, at Torridon, Leeds, England, says Sheep Breeder, August. The laboratory has also developed a new chemical treatment for woolen bandages, which produces the same effect as elastoplast, used in the surgical treatment of wounds.

Fairchild
Grape

Writing on grape breeding in the Journal of Heredity for June, Joseph L. Fennell says the hybrid Fairchild grape (named after a former Department plant explorer) shows the improvement possible through using the more healthy small-fruited American species. It is an F₁ hybrid of the Central American "uva cimarrona" and the European variety Alphonse Lavallee. Though neither sprayed nor dusted, Fennell says, the Fairchild grape has been vigorous and healthy in a region (Florida) where grape pests are unusually devastating. It is the first improved grape on record to be derived from a tropical wild species, which was introduced some years ago by the Department of Agriculture.

G. B. Wartime
Information

"Agriculture and Allied Interests" is the second of a series on wartime guides to British sources of special information, issued by the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaus, says Nature (London, May 13).

Bulk Sugar
Shipment

An experimental bulk sugar shipment was made from Hawaii to the mainland last March and it was recently announced that results were sufficiently promising to warrant further experiments, says a Honolulu report in Sugar, August. A storage bin and conveyor system are under construction on Maui to handle the raw sugar and make additional tests. At present all sugar shipped from the territory is sacked before being loaded on ships. Jute sacks from India are used for the purpose. Since Great Britain is using large quantities of these for sandbags, a shortage of sacks for sugar is possible.

U. Idaho
Dairy Herd

The history of the University of Idaho's Holstein-Friesian herd, 30 years old this year, yields valuable lessons for dairymen who want to build up their herds economically, says Flour and Feed, August. The herd was established with carefully selected cows, and not a female has been bought since. All 65 animals in the present herd trace to the foundation cows; 18 to one, 22 to another, 13 to a third, and 12 to a fourth.

Edible
Soybeans

The introduction of edible types of soybeans suitable for using in the green or dry stages and possessing qualities for table use superior to the ordinary commercial types will undoubtedly do much to overcome earlier prejudices and will result in more extensive use of the soybean as a food by the American public, says W. J. Morse, of BPI, in the Soybean Digest, July. He includes references to literature on the nutritional value of edible varieties of soybeans and on ways of using them as food.

Disease Attacks
Codling Moth

Vera K. Charles, of BPI, writes in Mycologia (July-August) on a fungus disease of codling-moth larvae. The disease has been reported from Virginia, Indiana, and Delaware, she says, where it has reduced the numbers of over-wintering codling moths on apple trees.

Bee Disease
Protection

State laws in Oregon now require bee colonies to have permits before being moved from one location to another, says American Bee Journal, August. No charge is made for the permits, which are issued to show that the colonies are free from infectious disease.

DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

August 8, 1941.

URGES PRICE RISE
TO N.Y. MILK
PRODUCERS

An immediate increase in milk prices to producers in the New York milk shed was urged upon Federal and State officials yesterday to keep on the land farmers who otherwise might surrender to the "attractions of industry," says an AP report in the New York Times, August 8. At a Government hearing on proposed amendments to the New York City milk marketing orders, Homer S. Rolfe of Ogdensburg, chairman of the Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative Association, said "many of our farmers in the areas surrounding defense industry regions or towns are sorely tempted to quit farming and go to work in the shop."

EGYPT WILL
FINANCE COTTON

An AP report from Cairo in the New York Times, August 8, says the Egyptian Cabinet yesterday authorized the Finance Ministry to float a loan of 15,000,000 pounds, either internally or abroad, to finance purchase of half of next year's cotton crop. Great Britain is buying the other half.

SAYS INTERSTATE
TRADE BARRIERS
HAMPER DEFENSE

Immediate consideration of moves for elimination of interstate trade barriers to make fully effective the national defense program was urged by the New York State Food Merchants Association at its fortieth annual convention which closed last night, says a Utica report in the New York Journal of Commerce, August 8. The association declared that "the immediate urgency of the national defense program demands repeal or modification of all statutes, rules, regulations, and administrative orders which may in any way hamper the efficient functioning of the national economy."

PAN-AMERICAN
HIGHWAY LOAN

A San Jose wireless to the New York Times, August 8, says a new loan contract has been arranged between Costa Rica and the U.S. Export-Import Bank, providing for construction by the United States of a section of the Inter-American highway through Costa Rica from the border of Nicaragua to Panama.

U.S. Cotton For
Chinese Army

Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau, Jr., says the lend lease administration has ordered 10,000,000 yards of cotton goods for the Chinese Army. He said the textile, orders for which were approved recently, would be used to make uniforms for Chinese soldiers. (UP report in New York Journal of Commerce, August 8.)

Canadian Seed
Price Guarantee

Last year, with European seed producers cut off, the Canadian Government developed a plan aimed at making the country self-supporting in the main field and garden vegetable seeds, says a Toronto report in Seed World, August 1. Farmers in suitable districts were guaranteed prices for growing turnip, carrot, mangel, onion, beet, and other seeds. The bulk of these seed crops are being produced in British Columbia, the Eastern Maritime Provinces, and Ontario. Observers of the Government plan believe that about 25 percent of Canadian seed requirements for these crops will be produced this year. It is understood that the Government aims at making Canada entirely self-sufficient in these seeds by 1943 and hopes to build up a year's surplus.

British Tin
Use Restricted

An additional annual saving of from 30,000 to 40,000 tons of tinplate is expected to result from the recent extension of restrictions placed on the use of uneconomic and nonessential tinplate containers by the British Ministry of Supply, says Food Manufacture (London, June 1.) There will be no more tinplate containers for such commodities as liquid coffee essence, meat extract cubes, corn plasters, chocolate laxatives, fishing bait, incense, gramophone needles, and sparking plugs.

Boron For
Lima Beans

Growers of lima beans for canners will be interested in the results of experiments carried on last year by Robert E. Wester and Roy Magruder of the Beltsville Horticultural Station, which showed an increase in the weight of yield of dry seed on plots where boron was applied, says Canning Age for August. There was no appreciable difference in the size of the seeds themselves, the experiments showed. The methods of applying boron, quantities used, and tabulation of results are reported in a paper printed in the 1941 Proceedings of the American Society for Horticultural Science.

Refrigeration
Standards

The American Society of Refrigerating Engineers has issued a new circular on standards for refrigeration, says American Egg and Poultry Review, July. Among the standards covered are those on locker plants, milk coolers, and refrigeration safety code.

Resins And
Plastics

Industrial and Engineering Chemistry for August contains five articles on phenol-formaldehyde resins and plastics. Two of the articles discuss phenolic resins for plywood and cottonseed hulls in phenolic plastics. Little information is available on the utilization of cottonseed hulls as fillers in phenolic plastics, says Fritz Rosenthal, of the University of Tennessee.

Milling
Process

Canadian Government scientists at Ottawa believe they have developed a new milling process for Canadian wheat by which it would be possible to retain in the flour a large part of the vitamins left with the bran under standard milling methods. The new process works satisfactorily in small experimental mills. (Country Guide, Winnipeg, August.)

Farm Freight
Via The Air

"Farm freight on wings is a world story," says C. M. Wilson, in Country Gentleman, August. Soviet Russia claims the world's largest yearly volume, 60,000 tons. South American airlines fly cattle, jacks, and horses, and make landings and deliveries in private pastures hundreds of miles beyond railroads or highways. Canada takes second place in farm air freight, principally with transport of men, materials, and supplies to the distant north. Central America comes third, largely because of Guatemalan chicle. A 20-mule team used to carry a ton of chicle to the seaboard from the jungle in five weeks at a cost of 40 to 50 cents a pound; today one cargo plane carries 2 tons the same distance in an hour at a cost of 2 cents a pound.

Plastics
Restriction

No more plastics will be available after August 23 for the manufacture of advertising premiums, mechanical record players, toys, amateur cameras, novelties, and similar articles, OPACS has announced. It said also it is investigating formaldehyde prices because of reports that "less scrupulous distributors are exacting excessive prices." Formaldehyde and ammonia, both derivatives of methanol, have been in increasing demand. (AP report in Christian Science Monitor, August 5.)

Purebred Beef
Cattle Sales

Prices running well into four figures have been common in beef-cattle sales this year, says Country Gentleman for August. Elliott Brown, outstanding Iowa cattleman, recently sold Erianna B 6th, 1940 International grand champion Angus cow, for \$5,200. This has been rated the most successful purebred season in two decades.

Migrating MothsCarry Plant Seeds

Insects must now be added to birds and mammals as carriers of seeds of migrating plants, says Science Service. Arnold Pictet, naturalist of the Swiss National Park, says in a report recently received in Washington that he has often collected specimens of the death's-head moth with berry seeds of several species attached to their bodies. Since these moths are known to migrate over mountain passes, from the Italian to the northern side of the Alps, they can easily be the means of distributing plants of at least the lighter-seeded species for long distances.

U.S. Economic
Defense Comment

Hugh Dalton, British Minister of Economic Warfare, told the House of Commons that there had been a "remarkable development" of United States measures for economic defense in the last six months, and called its export licensing system a "most effective means of denying supplies to the enemy," according to an AP report from London to the Christian Science Monitor, August 5. Particularly, Dalton said, the British welcome establishment of the economic board in Washington headed by Vice President Wallace.

Cotton Trading
at 4-Year Peak

Futures trading in cotton aggregated 6,984,500 bales during July, the highest for any month since March 1937, CEA reports. The volume in July 1940 was 1,370,950 bales.

Guaiacol Cures
Shipping Fever

Johnson and Farquharson, of Colorado State College, report in the Journal of the A.V.M.A., August, that potassium guaiacol sulfonate effectively cures shipping fever of cattle. They report that nearly 100 percent of cattle treated with guaiacol during the past two years recovered from the disease. The drug is best administered intravenously, they say. Diseased cattle treated with guaiacol at the college showed considerable improvement in 24 hours and returned to normal in 36 hours.

Land Bank
Collections
Improve

General improvement in agricultural conditions are reflected in collections made by the Federal land banks on farm mortgages during the year ended June 30, the Department of Agriculture says. Exceptions were recorded only in the Springfield, Massachusetts, and Baltimore districts. Cash collections have been higher in 33 states and Puerto Rico. The most outstanding improvements have been in Georgia, Alabama, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Decreases were recorded in 15 states, the largest in Maine and Florida.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 29.

Section 1

August 11, 1941

COTTON CROP

ESTIMATED AT

10,817,000 BALES

A cotton crop of 10,817,000 bales is forecast by the Crop Reporting Board, as of August 1. This estimate is 1,749,000, or 14 percent, less than the 1940 crop, and 2,429,000, or 18 percent, less than the 10-year (1930-39) average. This would be the smallest crop since 1935. The average yield is forecast at 224.4 pounds per acre, which is 28.1 pounds less than the 1940 yield, but 19.0 pounds more than the average of 205.4 pounds per acre.

TO PROMOTE

OSNABURG

PRODUCTION

Conferences of a special committee of cotton manufacturers with OPM and the Department of Agriculture will be held in Washington beginning August 19 to step up production of cotton osnaburg to a Federal goal of supplying an estimated emergency period market for 700,000,000 yards annually, says the New York Journal of Commerce, August 11. Osnaburg production in 1939, the last census year, was 232,315,470 yards, and trade quarters believe current output is between 250,000,000 and 275,000,000.

PAPERBOARD

PRODUCTION

AT RECORD

Spurred by mounting requirements of civilian and defense users, paperboard manufacturers expanded output to a new all-time high for the August 2 week, with operations rising to an estimated 93 percent of capacity, according to the National Paperboard Association. Paperboard circles view the 93 percent level as approximating the highest possible output, equivalent to a weekly volume of some 170,000 tons and better than 6-day operations for active mills. (New York Journal of Commerce, August 11.)

VEGETABLE

DEHYDRATION

RESEARCH

Emergency need for concentrated foodstuffs is speeding research by the Department on dehydration of vegetables. The program may be extended to include other foods. The work is under supervision of a committee of chemists and engineers directed by Doctor Knight, Chief of AC&E. Investigations are expected to produce usable results within a few months. The principal part of the dehydration program will be conducted at the Western Regional Research Laboratory at Albany, California, instead of at Los Angeles where the previous work was done.

Foxes, Minks
As Domestic
Animals

Recent laws in Michigan classify foxes and minks as domestic animals, protect the property rights of ranchers in their animals, provide penalties for trespassing on ranch property, and provide for registration tattoo marks with the State Commission of Agriculture. The laws were modeled after the Wisconsin domestication laws.

Controlled
Ozone For
Apple Storage

The use of ozone materially reduces mold spores in apple storage rooms, says Refrigerating Engineering for August, commenting on an article by Smock and Watson of Cornell University. It was also found that ozone checks the spread of rots on scabby apples. The effect of ozone on reducing the ripening rate of apples is not clear cut, but is in favor of the ozone treatment. The authors point out that more study is needed on the effect of ozone on apple scald in storage. "Controlled atmosphere storage" of apples is gaining popularity among growers in New York and New England.

Frozen Lockers
For The Home

A low-cost, portable, frozen food locker for the home is described in an article in Refrigerating Engineering for August. It seems improbable, however, according to the article, that portable units can supply freezing storage at a cost as low as that in centralized plants. The University of Washington supplies plans for home or farm freezers at nominal cost, it says.

Ala. Forest
Fire Control

Adequate State-wide forest-fire control and education of forest landowners on proper methods of timber cutting and forest management are provided in a forest program for Alabama, adopted in June by the State Conservation Commission, says American Forests, August. Effort will be made to place all of Alabama's forest land under intensive fire control.

Ancient World
Soil Erosion

W. C. Lowdermilk, assistant chief of SCS, is author of "Written in the Syrian Desert," the leading article in August American Forests. An editor's note says that in 1939 Lowdermilk traveled nearly 7,000 miles across Algeria, Tunisia, Lybia, and into Egypt and Palestine, to study the part played by soil erosion in the crumbling of the empires of the Ancient World. Because the Syrian desert includes a vast lake of oil, now coveted by warring nations, what Dr. Lowdermilk has to say of the present and past of this "graveyard of civilization" is of particular interest today, says the note.

Mahogany
Potential Crop
For Florida

Mahogany is a potential resource of southern Florida, says F. E. Egler, New York State College of Forestry, in the August Journal of Forestry. West Indian mahogany, which grows naturally in south Florida, can become established under a remarkably wide range of ecological conditions, ranging from a distinctly arid climate to a rain forest region, and from complete exposure to light in savanna or grazed pasture to closed tropical forest of medium density. After many decades of exploitation in the American tropics, the supply of mahogany in the more accessible regions has been seriously depleted, says Egler, who suggests consideration of the possibilities of mahogany production in this country.

Trees Reclaim
Illinois Strip
Mine Land

Trees are being used to salvage waste land left after strip coal mining in Illinois, says J. P. Schavilje, in the Journal of Forestry for August. There are 102 strip mines in the State. Last year, 16 strip mine companies, under the leadership of the Illinois Division of Forestry, planted 1,525,000 trees. Black locust, shortleaf pine, silver maple, and red oak were used most extensively. Average cost of planting was 1 cent a tree, or \$10.38 an acre. Results of the last three years have been decidedly encouraging and strip mine operators are convinced of the feasibility of forestation, says Schavilje.

Wallace As
Economic
Board Head

"In setting up a board to exercise authority over economic warfare, President Roosevelt took a most necessary step, and in placing Vice President Wallace at its head, he chose a man of the highest qualifications for the job," says New Republic (August 11). "Mr. Wallace is a well grounded student of foreign trade, and through his work as Secretary of Agriculture he has had a good deal of practical enlightenment as to how it operates. His attitude is American and international at the same time; again and again he has demonstrated the ability to take the long view."

Part-Time
Farming
Survey

A survey by Boonstra and Jackson, Louisiana State agronomists, involving 64 part-time farmers in the Bogalusa area, yields valuable information, says the New Orleans Times Picayune, August 2. The essence of the survey is that "part-time farming should be considered primarily as a way of life, not as an easy means of supplementing the wages of low-income industrial workers." The financial profit from this type of farming, they find, lies in the food raised for family consumption, the average value of which is \$150 to \$200 a year.

"Ever-Normal"Food Supply

There is need to speed up food production and organize an ever-normal food supply to take care of the post-war period, says an editorial in Farm and Ranch, August. In a recent conference, Secretary Wickard said: "Some people are saying even now that our principal problem is still one of surpluses. So far as our export crops are concerned — wheat, cotton, and tobacco — they're right. After the war a large part of the world will be looking to the United States for food. Whether we can give it to them may decide how much weight the United States will have at the peace councils." The nation fortified with an abundance of food at the close of the war will be in a position of influence in untangling world problems, the editorial concludes.

Boll WeevilsNumerous InCotton Belt

Growers still have time to protect their cotton from the worst infestation of boll weevils in years, if the crop is growing well and there are sufficient squares and bolls to make calcium-arsenate dusting practical, the Department says. Reports from field laboratories indicate that boll weevils are numerous throughout the Cotton Belt, but infestation is spotted, varying from farm to farm and field to field. The Department recommends frequent examination of the fields.

Haitian AgricultureCorporation

The corporation through which the Haitian and United States governments will cooperate in the long-term agricultural development of Haiti has been incorporated in Port au Prince, says the Department. The Corporation, capitalized at \$1,000,000, is authorized to grow and develop rubber, oil crops, spices, drug plants, food plants, fiber plants, forest plants and other Haitian natural resources; carry on experimental work in disease control and plant development; develop methods of processing agricultural crops and promote manufacturing and handicrafts related to agriculture; and buy and sell agricultural and manufactured products in foreign and domestic markets.

Cellophane ForApple Liners

The Canadian Division of Horticulture reports promising results with the use of a special cellophane bag for apples, says Farmer's Magazine (Toronto, August). The cellophane used in the bags, or liners, is strong enough to stand handling in storage and is coated with a moisture-proof lacquer that will not slough off under moist conditions. Conditions generated in the cellophane container are similar to those of gas storage and are suitable to such varieties of apples as McIntosh, Northern Spy, Linda, Lawfam, Sandow, and Cortland. Other varieties should be thoroughly tested before moisture-proof cellophane is used. Retailers and housewives have commented favorably on the excellent condition of fruit marketed in cellophane bags, says the magazine.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 30.

Section 1

August 12, 1941.

NAMES COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

In response to a suggestion from the President, Secretary Wickard today named the presidents of four leading farm organizations as a farm organization committee on agricultural production for defense and related matters. The committee is composed of James G. Patton, president of the Farmers' Educational and Cooperative Union of America; Edward A. O'Neal, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation; Louis J. Taber, Master of the National Grange; and Judge John D. Miller, president of the National Cooperative Council. The appointment was made after consultation with the Office of Civilian Defense.

GENERAL CROP REPORT

Production of spring and winter wheat this year will reach 950,953,000 bushels, the Department of Agriculture's report, issued yesterday, shows. This compares with 923,613,000 bushels forecast a month ago, and 816,698,000 bushels harvested last year. The corn harvest is estimated at 2,587,574,000 bushels, whereas a month earlier the yield was placed at 2,548,709,000 bushels. A year ago the harvest amounted to 2,449,200,000 bushels. The oats crop was forecast at 1,148,162,000 bushels against 1,212,783,000 bushels a month ago, while the rye crop was forecast at 46,462,000 bushels, compared with 48,579,000 bushels a month ago. (New York Journal of Commerce, August 12.)

GRAIN RATE REDUCTION RECOMMENDED

T. Leo Haden, Interstate Commerce Examiner, yesterday recommended a 10 percent reduction in joint rail-ocean rates on grain and grain products shipped from the Southwest to Atlantic ports, says a UP report in the New York Journal of Commerce, August 12. In a report to the commission, he suggested that present joint rates of 60 cents per cwt. from the Texas-Oklahoma base area to eastern ports be reduced to 54 cents. The commission several months ago suspended a proposed rate of 51 cents and ordered the case reopened.

Ohio Fertilizer,
Feed Laws

New laws affecting sales of fertilizer and feed in Ohio will go into effect September 4, says Ohio Farmer, August 9. The laws cover liquid as well as solid fertilizer, and require that they contain at least 18 units of plant food. The new feed law brings under State regulation vitamin supplements, vitamin-containing oils, and vitamin concentrates.

Building Houses
Experimental Silos

To control conditions in conducting experiments with 24 silos at the Ohio Experiment Station, a building with vitrified tile walls and wood loft has been constructed to house the silos, says Ohio Farmer, August 9. The building will protect the silos, maintain reasonably constant temperatures, and allow for conditioning of forages as they come from the field. Doors are provided in both ends of the mow so the crops can be chopped and blown in or taken in whole on a sling. Over the silos are removable panels in the mow floor.

Slaughtering,
Curing Business

A farmer in Erie County, Pennsylvania, has developed a custom slaughtering, meat cutting, and curing business, says the Rural New Yorker, August 9. Last year he butchered 2,000 hogs, between 300 and 400 head of cattle, and some sheep, lambs, goats, and deer.

Briarwood
Substitutes

The war halted imports of briarwood from Italy, France, and Algiers, but a factory at Boone, N.C., is filling orders for pipe blocks made from locally grown ivy, laurel, and rhododendron burls, said to be almost as satisfactory as imported briarwood. (Business Week, August 9.)

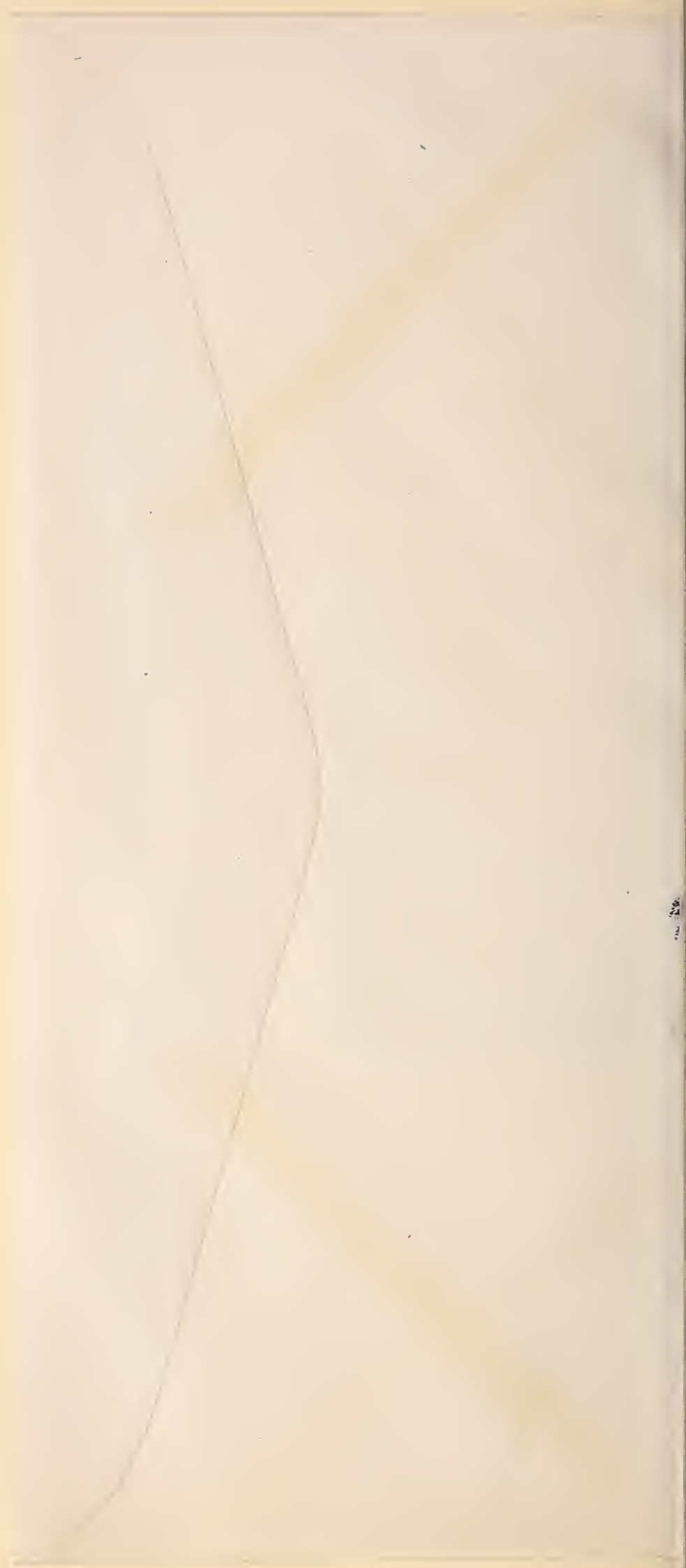
Barge Freight
Increases

Barge freight on inland waterways is increasing, according to the latest report of Inland Waterways Corporation (operators of Federal Barge Lines) says Business Week, August 9. Tonnage moved by the corporation during the first three months of 1941 increased about 10 percent. In the early 1900's, barges were wooden affairs 100 by 24 feet. Today, barges in use on big streams are of steel, about 200 by 40 feet, and can carry 700 to 1,200 tons.-- the equivalent of 20 to 30 freight car loads. Traffic nowadays consists largely of coal, bulk agricultural commodities, iron and steel products, petroleum products, and raw materials for industry.

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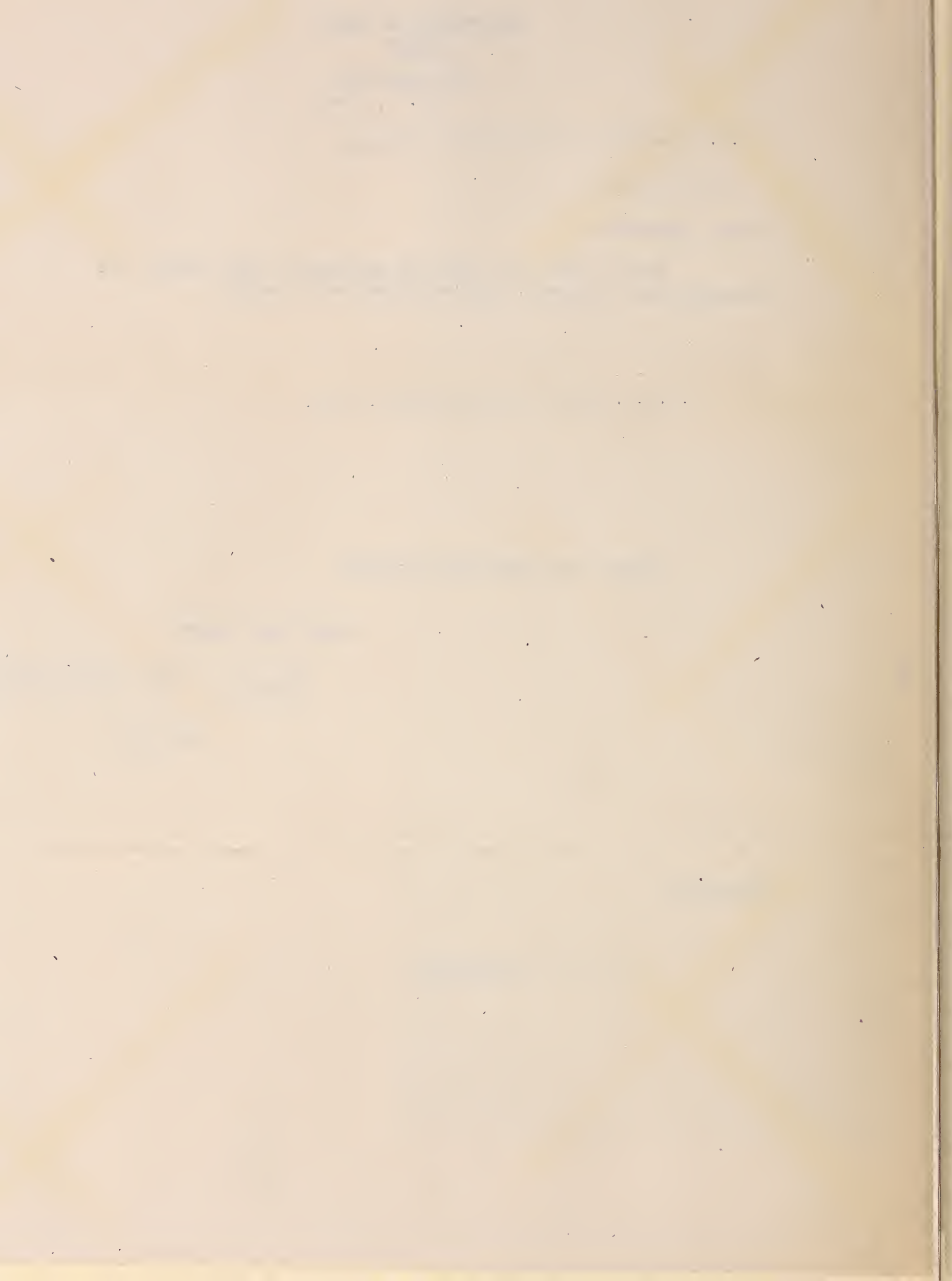
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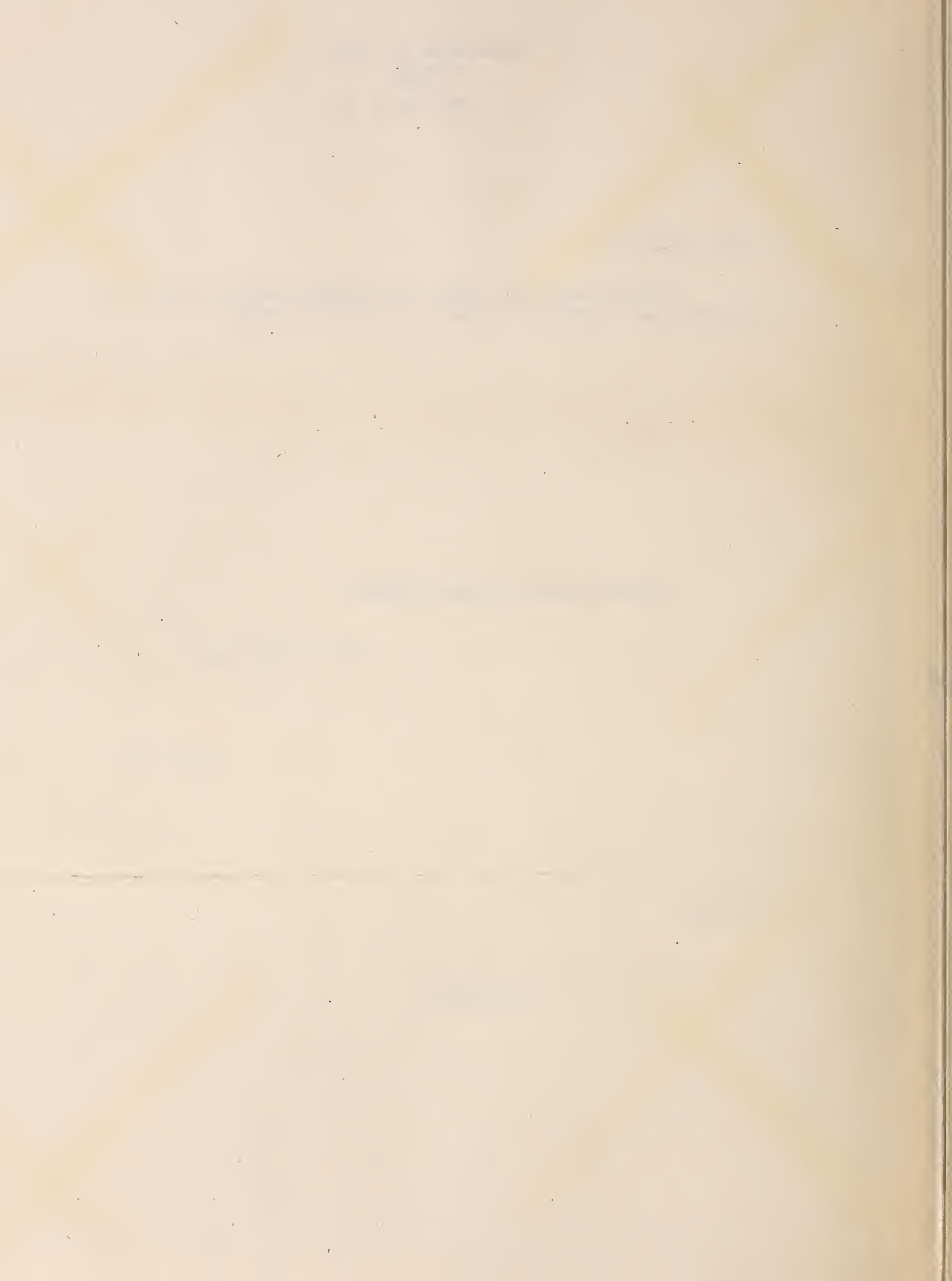
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U.S.D.A. Daily Digest, July-Dec. 1941.

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Powder Supplies
From Cotton

Defense supplies of smokeless powder for big guns, anti-aircraft shells, and army rifles may be made from staple cotton instead of cotton linters, as a result of Department research. The linters are particularly adapted to nitrating for the powder, but present demand for this purpose and other uses is far beyond the supply. AC&E, at its Southern Regional Research Laboratory, found that good-quality, clean cotton fiber of lengths ordinarily used in fabrics, when cut to a suitable length, apparently was as well adapted to the powder-making process as the linters. The research men have designed machines for processing the cotton cheaply and quickly and some such machines have already been built.

Chemical Promotes
Self-Fertility
In Plants

Preliminary experiments indicate that alpha naphthalene acetamide greatly increases the self-fertility of highly inbred strains and highly sterile strains of cabbage, red clover, and African marigold, says W. H. Eyster of Bucknell University, in Science, August 8. These results suggest that a great variety of economically important plants which are normally partly or completely self-sterile may be made self-fertile by the use of a solution of alpha naphthalene acetamide.

Documentary
Film Issued

Georgia's first full-color, grade A documentary film, Our New Farm, has been completed by the Georgia Extension Service under sponsorship of the Georgia Power Company, says the Atlanta Constitution, August 4. The film deals with the use of electric service on the farm and is the first of what the Extension Service hopes will be a series of educational films made possible through cooperation of the State college and business people of Georgia.

FSA Families
To Organize

Low-income farm families in Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, and Florida are to be organized into cooperative groups, which expect to present "a new approach to solution of historic farm problems of the South," E. S. Morgan, FSA regional director, said recently. "The object is the utmost of democratic control," Morgan explained, "to facilitate the working together of low-income families in groups to solve their mutual problems of rehabilitation." Each association will be incorporated, he said, with control in the hands of the farmers themselves. (Birmingham Age News-Herald, August 3.)

Seizure Under
Seed Act

The first seizure under the Federal Seed Act of assorted packets of vegetable seeds in commission boxes was recently made in the District of Columbia, the Department says. The lot, consisting of about 300 packets, was ordered destroyed by the U.S. District Court.

Inspect Planes
For Jap Beetles

Sleuths of the Department of Agriculture have nabbed 200 Japanese beetles trying to board outgoing planes at La Guardia field during the past eight weeks, says the New York Herald Tribune, August 7. The planes were en route to the Middle West and South, two regions still free of the beetle. Tests were recently made to determine the reaction of the beetles to high altitudes. Of 69 beetles carried on two flights from Pittsburgh to New York at a maximum altitude of 9,000 feet, all but two survived.

Cotton For
Smokeless
Powder

Army ordnance experts have developed a method of processing cotton to replace silk for the manufacture of containers for smokeless powder, says a report in the New York Herald Tribune, August 6. Hitherto silk has been used by the Army and Navy for "non-fixed" powder loads because after the shot is fired from large guns there is no residue of sparks or burning fabric. The "fixed" load is that in which the powder is contained in a brass shell.

Weed Immigrants
In United States

More than a thousand European weeds have invaded America in the last three centuries, and they continue to come, says M. L. Fernald, of Harvard University, in the latest annual report of the Smithsonian Institution. Some of the invaders are crowding out the rarest and most delicate North American flowers. Common plant immigrants include the dandelion, Canada thistle, plantain, pigweed, and dock. Fernald says these weeds are more of a menace than purely native species like poison ivy, wild strawberry, blackberry, and raspberry, fire weed, pennyroyal, and others. (Milwaukee Journal, July 27.)

Farm Real Estate
Market Improves

The farm real estate market has shown such an improvement during the past year that for the first time since 1934 the Federal land banks are holding less than \$100,000,000 worth of farms, most of which they have had to take over during the last 7 years, the Department reports. Approximately one-fourth of all properties the banks had for sale during the first half of this year were sold, compared with 21 percent for the corresponding period in 1940. Real estate sales have shown particularly marked increases in areas where the holdings have been largest for the past several years. An increase in farm sales also was reported by the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation for which the Federal land banks have handled first and second mortgages during the past 8 years.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 31.

Section 1

August 13, 1941.

WICKARD DISCUSSES FARM LEGISLATION

Secretary of Agriculture Wickard said yesterday in an address at Athens, Ga., in discussing farm legislation, "One of these proposals would allow wheat farmers who exceeded their acreage allotment this year to use excess wheat for feed and seed....The proposal sounds reasonable enough until we look at it closely. Then we see that it won't do. It is letting the end gate down, and out of that end gate will go the whole wheat program. As a practical matter, it would be impossible to determine just how much wheat is needed for feed and seed. As a result, more wheat will be planted each year instead of less and we might as well stop trying to adjust wheat production to wheat needs.... Wheat farmers don't want to wreck their program and they should not be forced to wreck it.

"In the same bill, there is another provision that will hurt farmers if it goes into effect. This provision would freeze about six million bales of cotton and 200 million bushels of wheat held by Commodity Credit Corporation....I feel that Commodity Credit should never release its stocks of any commodity in a way that would endanger the parity objective for that commodity. But to tie up stocks in an effort to create an artificial scarcity and unreasonable prices is not in the interests of the farmer, the consumer, or the general welfare....The proposed freezing of stocks violates the principle of the Ever-Normal Granary. The theory behind the granary is that commodities will be stored up in times of surplus and released when they are needed."

OPACS SETS CEILING PRICE ON SUGAR

OPACS yesterday fixed a ceiling of 3.50 cents a pound on 96 degree raw sugar, duty paid, New York, says the New York Journal of Commerce, August 13. The order is to be effective Thursday, when it will appear in the Federal Register. The ceiling will apply to all existing contracts. It is understood that differentials will be allowed to take care of transportation costs.

CCC TO AID HARVESTING

Complying with requests from Government officials, agricultural leaders, farmers, and orchard operators for help in harvesting crops, James J. McEntee, director of the Civilian Conservation Corps, announced yesterday that he had authorized leave of absence for CCC enrollees to help in this work. CCC officials estimate that 50 percent of the Corps, or about 100,000 young men, would be put to work all over the nation. They will be paid by the farmers.

Egyptian
Cotton Pact

An AP report from Cairo in the New York Herald Tribune says an agreement by which the British Government will purchase one-half of the 1941-42 Egyptian cotton crop, while the Egyptian Government purchases the other half, was announced yesterday. Prices will be the same as paid this year. The Egyptian Government, submitting the agreement to Parliament for approval, introduced a bill restricting the cotton acreage to about 75 percent of this year's area.

Flue-Cured
Tobacco Prices

Price averages for early sales on the auction markets of the Carolinas flue-cured tobacco belt yesterday were in most cases above 25 cents a pound, says an AP report in the Washington Post, August 13. South Carolina's nine markets averaged about 15 cents last season and North Carolina's 16.14 cents. Quality of offerings was better at many markets than had been expected. Offerings for the most part were heavy.

Vaccine
For Poultry
Coccidiosis

A new weapon in fighting cecal coccidiosis in poultry has been developed by the University of Wisconsin in the form of a vaccine that gave good results in 2-year trials, says Niemen Hoveland in Country Gentleman, August. Herrick, Waxler, and Homes capitalized on findings made some years ago at Columbia University — that X-rays reduce the virulence of coccidial oocysts. Feeding measured doses of X-rayed oocysts to chicks allows them to build up immunity to the disease, they found. It will take more research to learn whether the treatment can be adapted for practical use.

AMS Establishes
Chicago Office

The Agricultural Statistics Division of AMS is opening a new field office in Chicago this month, says A.M.S. News, August 1. The office will issue a weekly report on cheese production, funds for the work having been provided in the 1942 appropriation act. Other dairy reports, previously prepared in Washington, will be handled by the new office.

Grade A Seed
Wheat List

In the "Grade A" seed wheat list recently issued by the Kansas Wheat Improvement Association there is more Tenmarq listed than any other variety, says a Manhattan report in Northwestern Miller, August 6. There are 134 fields of Tenmarq, with estimated production of 229,215 bushels. The list includes 51 fields of Turkey, with 83,000 bushels. Kanred ranks third in amount of Grade A seed wheat produced, with 41,000 bushels available for planting this fall.

"Hunger Signs
In Crops"

A new book, *Hunger Signs in Crops*, written by a committee of 14 specialists and edited by Gove Hambridge (of the Department), describes some of the principal types of malnutrition in plants and tells what can be done about them, says *Science Digest*, September. Of particular importance nowadays is research on effects of shortage in the so-called trace elements, indispensable mineral nutrients needed only in minute quantities. Discovery of the necessity of these trace elements has been so recent, and research results are still accumulating so fast, that all statements about them must still be regarded as provisional. This new book, however, presents the most recent developments, says the *Digest*.

Wax From
Green Lint
Cotton

Green cotton with 30 times as much wax as ordinary white varieties offers possibilities as a source of wax for polishes, the Department says. Manufacturers of polish for shoes, furniture, floors, and automobiles need waxes with relatively high melting points. They have relied chiefly on imported wax, but shipping difficulties have stimulated interest in domestic sources. One chemical company in South Carolina is now growing experimentally about five acres of Arkansas Green Lint cotton to determine its value as a source of high-melting-point wax. This cotton is one of three green lint strains collected by BPI.

Cold-Storage
Stocks Larger

Stocks of all major perishable commodities held in cold storage warehouses and meat-packing plants were larger August 1 than a year ago, says an AP report in the *Washington Post*, August 13. In reporting this, the Department of Agriculture said meat stocks totaled 761,289,000 pounds, compared with 671,285,000 a year ago, and 566,998,000 for the August 1 (1936-40) average. Stocks of lard totaled 334,499,000 pounds, compared with 303,208,000 and a 5-year average of 168,137,000. Stocks of creamery butter were reported at 178,526,000 pounds, compared with 123,628,000 a year ago, and 137,838,000 for the 5-year average. Cold storage holding of all varieties of frozen fruit totaled 172,666,000 pounds, compared with 150,965,000 a year ago and a 5-year average of 127,566,000.

More Cattle
On Feed

There were 17 percent more cattle on feed for market in the 11 Corn Belt States on August 1 this year than a year earlier, AMS reports. This was the largest August 1 relative increase shown by reports going back to 1928. The actual number of cattle on feed August 1 this year was undoubtedly the largest since the beginning of the drought period in 1934 and probably among the largest for this date for all years. Increased numbers on feed are shown for all States, ranging from 6 and 5 percent in Ohio and Kansas, respectively, to 25 percent in Iowa and Nebraska and 35 percent in South Dakota.

Trends
In Diet

People eat about the same total quantity of food now as they did 30 years ago, but the composition of the dietary has changed. Consumption of wheat and other cereals, potatoes and apples, beef, veal, and tea has declined, but consumption of vegetables (other than potatoes), citrus fruits, sugar, poultry, eggs, milk, manufactured dairy products (especially ice cream), edible fats and oils (other than lard and butter), cocoa, chocolate, and coffee has increased. Consumption of lamb and mutton, pork and lard, butter, and sweetpotatoes has varied, but the general level of consumption of these foods has not changed. (Agricultural Situation, July.)

Inter-American
Statistical
Institute

The Inter-American Statistical Institute, formed early this year, now has members from the United States, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela, says the Bulletin of the Pan American Union, August. Some aims of the Institute are provision for technical advisory services to governments on problems of statistical organization and projects; establishment of inter-American commissions to formulate statistical standards; and publication of a journal and special reports. The recently elected president of the Institute is M. A. Teixeira de Freitas of Brazil.

Cereal Product
Improves Butter

A cereal concentrate is effective in retarding off flavors and in improving the keeping quality of butter, says an article in Food Industries for August. The cereal, a product on the market, is used in three ways; added to the cream, to the salt during working of the butter, and to the surface of the wrapper.

Ocean Freight
Rate Adjustment

Readjustment of ocean freight rates, effective September 1, is now being undertaken by steamship operators in accordance with a request of the Maritime Commission coincident with an order reducing ship charter rates, says Washington Review, August 11. While no general percentage reduction in cargo rates is expected, due to the varying proportion of chartered tonnage employed in different trades, many routes and important commodities will doubtless be affected.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 32.

Section 1

August 14, 1941.

176 TO 163 HOUSE

VOTE TO FREEZE

U.S. COTTON STOCKS

Wednesday the House voted 176 to 163 to freeze cotton stocks now held by the Government for the duration of the emergency. Exceptions are: (1) cotton for use for domestic relief in the U. S., (2) for relief in foreign countries, (3) for use by any foreign country whose defense the President deems vital to the defense of the U. S. (4) for export to any foreign country pursuant to authority and subject to limitations contained in other provisions of the law. The bill now goes to the President for his signature or veto.

FORD INTRODUCES

PLASTIC AUTO

BODY AND FENDERS

Products of the farm may largely replace steel and other metals in the manufacture of automobiles, if the new plastic body and fenders of a motor car introduced by Henry Ford yesterday are as successful as Ford officials predict, says a report in the New York Times, August 13. The plastic, developed by Ford chemists, consists of sheets of 70 percent cellulose fiber and 30 percent resin binder, and is made from such farm products and by-products as cotton, wheat, corn, soybeans and flax. The plastic bodies and fenders are said to absorb a blow 10 times as heavy as ordinary bodies can stand without denting.

MAY USE CORN FOR

MUNITIONS ALCOHOL,

SAYS WICKARD

Secretary Wickard announced Wednesday that Commodity Credit Corporation had offered to make 20 million bushels of corn available to the War Department to make alcohol for use in munition manufacture. The corn would make 50 million gallons of alcohol -- as much as 125 million gallons of molasses would make. Molasses has been imported from Cuba for that purpose. Use of home-grown corn will help to reduce the surplus, and at the same time, greatly reduce the number of tankers needed to ship the molasses from Cuba.

FACTORY WORKERS

HAVE MORE TO SPEND

The average factory worker in 1929 had to spend about a third of his wages on a standard food budget (58 items). So far this year he has had to spend about a fourth, according to the USDA. The study by economist Louis H. Bean points out, that the average factory worker, after taking care of his food budget, has almost a fifth more to spend on commodities other than food than he had in 1929.

USDA ResearchOn Canned Cheese

Carloads of American cheddar cheese now rolling eastward from the Pacific Northwest represent something new in the ancient art of cheese-making — "canned cheese," says July Refrigerating Engineering. For this new product, as well as other cheeses, holding under refrigeration is essential in order to maintain the delicate natural flavor. Absence of rind or shrinkage constitute economy factors which make it appealing to the catering profession. Years of research are behind the new development, an achievement made possible and practical by the research of the Bureau of Dairy Industry, USDA. The practice of ripening within the sealed containers means that flavor developed through ripening, is retained within the cheese itself. A valve-vent at one end of the can automatically releases when the gas pressure within the can reaches about 2 lb. of pressure. However, no air may enter the can through the vent.

Meet To Honor
Scientists

The Journal of Heredity for June reports that more than 160 of the nation's leading scientists and scholars, including thirty-two distinguished men and women who will be awarded honorary degrees, will report basic achievements and advances in learning in a five-day series of symposia sponsored by the University of Chicago. The learned gatherings will be held on the Midway Quadrangles in the week climaxing the celebration of the University's Fiftieth Anniversary, beginning September 22.

Form Inter-American
Dairy Group

Ministers of agriculture of sixteen western hemisphere nations are planning a program for developing production and use of milk and its products, reports the July issue of American Butter Review. Countries represented on the Council of Sponsors now are: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, United States and Venezuela. Secretary Claude R. Wickard represents the United States. The purpose of the Committee is to stimulate development of dairying and the dairy industries in all the countries of this hemisphere with the aim of improving public health, and at the same time of producing milk and dairy products for consumption within the countries of origin instead of surplus beef and grain which depend upon export markets, now cut off by war.

Electricity vs.
Hand Labor

The Rural Electrification News for June says: "A small electric motor working hour after hour, will equal the hand production for some types of farm labor of three men and a boy. Such a motor will work for $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents per hour. Can you afford to compete with electricity for wages that low?"

Defense WorkersMay Buy MoreFarm Products

The air base under construction near Harlingen, Tex. will have a good-sized community of consumers who will be reasonably well paid and will probably spend more money for fresh farm products than do those of the average town with a like population, says Texas Farming and Citriculture, August. An influx of consumers of this class presents our farmers with an opportunity unprecedented in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Full returns from fresh vegetables, poultry, and dairy products has not been realized in the past because of the long rail or truck hauls required to reach areas populous enough to absorb large quantities of the output, it says.

Herb GrowingIncreases

Disruption of trade with Europe has cut off our principal supply of herbs, essences, and essential oils, says Andrew S. Wing, in Nature Magazine, August-September. He says that herb farms and gardens are springing up in many sections, especially in the East and near large cities. There are also a number of nurseries where the plants are grown for sale. Seeds usually come through regular commercial channels. Herbs are either dried and packed in jars to be used for seasoning or fragrance, or are incorporated in processed foods such as tarragon vinegar, spiced jellies, and other delicacies.

Nation Calls On Yuma
Co. For Bermuda Seed
To Sod Flying Fields

Bermuda seed production has suddenly jumped into the limelight as a defense industry, and as an important enterprise in Arizona. Principal beneficiaries are the Roll-Wellton area and North Gila Valley in Yuma County, says Arizona Farmer, July 19. These comprise the only section in the U.S. where Bermuda seed is commercially produced, except for a little from the Blythe and Phoenix areas. Bermuda seed will be used for sodding all the U.S. Army aviation fields in states where the grass will get along without irrigation — which means the South, principally.

Blister BugsIn Arizona

Now blister beetles have followed grasshoppers to plague rangemen and farmers in Northern Cochise and Southwest Graham, reports July 19 Arizona Farmer. There's a close connection between the two pests, for blister beetles eat the egg pods of grasshoppers. But they also eat most garden, field and range plants. Farmers are fighting them with sprays of arsenic, pyrethrum and sodium fluosilicate. The blister beetle is a striped insect about 3/4-inch long. Its blood contains an oil that raises a blister if crushed on the skin. Ground blister beetles are the "Spanish fly" of veterinary medicine.

Freezing Storage
of Truck Crops

Research work on frozen foods, which has been under way at the Georgia Agricultural Experiment Station, for ten years, continues to support the plan of freezing fruits and vegetables before packaging, according to a statement on the project included in the experiment station's latest annual report, says July Refrigeration Engineering. For the past three years the Georgia investigators have placed emphasis on methods of freezing, with particular reference to the quality of the resulting product. Best results, they have concluded, are obtained when the fruits or vegetables are frozen individually, rather than in mass.

Booklet On
Frozen Vegetables

The USDA has published a new 72-page booklet on the varieties of peas, corn, green and lima beans most suitable for quick freezing. This is Technical Bulletin 731, the authors being Joseph S. Caldwell, J. M. Lutz, H. H. Moon and C. W. Culpepper (price 10 cents from Supt. of Documents, Wash., D.C.). For growers and packers the work done by the scientists in the service of the federal and state government has been of the utmost value. In this bulletin the methods of analysis are described in detail, and will be of interest to students of freezing processes.

Army Big User
Of Farm Products

Keeping 1,400,000 American soldiers healthy and happy with 4,200,000 scientifically balanced and appetizing meals a day is the big job the Quartermaster Corps is successfully handling, says Arthur Grahame in the Sept. issue of Popular Science. The Army spends well over \$600,000 a day for more than 6½ million pounds of food -- a million pounds of meat, two million of bread, 600,000 of potatoes, half million of fresh fruit and vegetables and 700,000 quarts of fresh milk.

Milk Co-op
Analyzes Farm
Income From Fats

The National Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation has made available a summary of a study entitled "What Farmers Really Get Out of Oleomargarine," reports the American Butter Review, July. According to the study, in 1940 total farm cash income from the four principal fats -- butter, lard, vegetable shortening, and oleomargarine -- was \$554,543,000, but farmers get as much from one pound of butter as they do from nine pounds of oleo.

Plan U. of California
Veterinary School

Plans for a new School of Veterinary Medicine, under provision of \$500,000 are going forward rapidly and students will enroll in the new courses with the beginning of the Fall semester.

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Section 1

August 15, 1941

UNIFORM RULES SET Uniform conditions and procedure to be
FOR SCHOOL MILK followed by the Surplus Marketing Administration
PROGRAM FOR 1941-42 in putting the school milk program into effect
have been authorized by Secretary Wickard.

Under the authorization, the school milk program can operate in any city or area of the nation meeting certain conditions. Public schools, religious schools, private or nursery schools not operated for profit can participate. Institutions include any community center, settlement house, children's home, child-aid center, boys' club, or like institution or organization having facilities for distributing milk to children.

DAIRY FARMERS' Dairy farmers in the six States of the
INCOME IN NEW YORK New York milkshed will receive the highest
MILKSHED HIGHER July uniform price in 12 years for milk delivered
last month to city-approved plants, according
to an announcement by W. J. Cladakis, administrator of the Federal-State milk marketing order in the New York area, says the August 15 New York Times. The July uniform price will be about \$2.30 a hundredweight for 3.5 butterfat milk in the base shipping zone. Increased income for the month is expected to amount to \$2,640,000 more than July, 1940. Increasing demand for manufactured dairy products together with a higher price scale for milk used in manufactured products have been responsible for part of the increase in the farmers' income.

TELLS GRANGE OF An Associated Press report to the Baltimore
HIGHWAY IMPORTANCE Sun, Aug. 15, said that Chester H. Gray, director
TO FARMERS of the National Highway Users' Conference, told
members of the Grange lecturers' conference
yesterday that increasing taxation on license tags and gasoline and better highway planning are among the biggest problems confronting the American farmer. Gray declared farmers should take an interest in the way their money is being spent for highway construction.

URGE NATIONAL The New York Journal of Commerce reports
FOOD STAMP PLAN that the Wisconsin Food Dealers' Association is
advocating the extension of the food stamp plan
for distributing surplus foods through regular trade channels throughout the U. S. The proposal was adopted yesterday at the 41st annual convention of the association in Fond Du Lac, Wisc.

Machine Splits
Sugar Beet Seed

A machine to split sugar beet seed balls containing several germs into single germs according to natural cleavage, has been devised by Roy Bainer, California Experiment Station, reports Farm Journal for August. Once separated, germs are weighed and the heaviest used to insure high germination. Objective is to reduce labor costs by eliminating the necessity for thinning and hoeing during the growing season.

Better Packaging
Of Corn Pays

Packaging fresh corn on the cob in a neat cellophane pack of six, has been bringing double the price corn in husks has on retail markets where tried, reports August Farm Journal. Ears fresh from the field are husked, silked and tips cut off. Bunched in half dozens in pyramid form, they are wrapped in cellophane at an extra cost of about four cents.

Grain Quality
Appears Good

The quality of the 1941 winter wheat crop is about equal to the 7-year (1934-40) average, July inspections of receipts at representative markets indicate. The quality of the 1941 oats crop appears to be well above average but lower than last season. July inspections of rye indicate a better than average crop of that grain.

Vitamin A For
Color-Blindness?

The suggestion that vitamin A may be useful in the treatment of color-blindness, generally held to be an hereditary defect, arises from experiments recently reported by Dr. Robert D. Loken, of the University of California at Los Angeles. In a group of 8 color-blind college students, the number of errors in color identification was cut in half after twelve days of vitamin A treatment. Each patient received 25,000 units of vitamin A a day for twelve days. (Modern Medicine, August.)

Virus Diseases Carried
By Dodder

Dodder, the pale yellow, leafless, parasitic vine that preys on the stems of other plants by sinking root-like growths into them, has been proven guilty of carrying virus diseases from one plant to another, in experiments conducted at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research at Princeton, N. J. by Dr. Folke Johnson, according to Phytopathology, July. Among the virus diseases transmitted by dodder are aster yellows, bushy-stunt of tomatoes, tobacco mosaic, curly-top of sugar beets and cucumber mosaic.

Farm LaborerMakes GoodFactory Worker

The farm laborer is a specialist -- very difficult to replace not only because of the many skills he must possess, but also because of the peculiar environment in which he must work, Brig. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, Director of Selective Service, declared in addressing the Iowa American Legion in Des Moines. For this reason, he said, local boards have been instructed to be very careful not to remove any needed farm worker from the production of vitally necessary food supplies. Notwithstanding, he asserted, there is a growing shortage of such labor because of a flow of farm workers to expanding defense industries. The fact that the farm laborer of today uses machinery and must have some skill in its maintenance and repair, he pointed out, makes transition to factory work easy.

Dry IceAttractsMosquitoes

Entomologists of the New Jersey Experiment Station report that dry ice attracts mosquitoes, says T. D. Mulhern, in Science Digest for September. In one test in Jersey a standard trap caught 208 mosquitoes and a similar trap with dry ice caught 3,500. The trap used by the station in mosquito-control studies is a metal cylinder, with a 25-watt electric light and an 8-inch fan inside. The station men hope to develop an effective small trap which can also be used as a porch or lawn light.

PyrethrumKills Silverfish

Pyrethrum spray kills silverfish, insect pests of books, papers, and linens, Arnold Mallis, University of California (L.A.), recently reported. Sodium fluoride and sodium fluosilicate have been used in the past to control silverfish but are only partially effective. Studying the diet preferences of silverfish, Mallis found that animal fibers such as silk and wool are not as popular with the pest as vegetable, fibers, linen, rayon, cotton, and lisle. Silverfish are very fond of cellophane, kleenex, and onion-skin paper, preferring these to newsprint and cardboard, he reports. (Science Service)

Water-InflatedFarm Tires

One hundred percent water-inflation of farm tires will be possible and economically practical as the result of developments by a rubber company, says American Fruit Grower, August. At present tires are filled only partially with water. Advantages of the new tires, it is said, are increased traction, reduction of bounce, reduction of sidewall buckle breaks, and less care. The method will be applied mostly to tractor tires at first. The new tires are not yet available to the public.

Illinois Farmers
Spread Limestone

A new liming record for Illinois, 2,360,000 tons, were used to correct soil acidity on about 780,000 acres during 1940, reports C. M. Linsley, U. of I. agronomist. Illinois farm land which was limed last year is in better condition to produce higher crop yields under the feed- and food-for-defense plans, Linsley points out.

Cooling Milk and
Cream Is Advised

Now is a good time of year to emphasize the importance of holding milk and cream in cold water, says July National Butter and Cheese Journal. In an editorial, the publication advises dairymen to show farmers how easy it is to do. "Tell them the blacksmith douses a red-hot horse into water in order to cool it quickly, instead of allowing it to cool in the open air. Too often the job of properly caring for milk and cream on the farm has been presented to farmers as a hard one. It is easiest to interest the farmer in those things which he is familiar. Keeping milk and cream clean and holding it in cold water doesn't involve any theoretical problems."

Bundles of Vitamins
For Britain

To fortify the British, the Department of Agriculture is purchasing large supplies of vitamin concentrates. These include 5,000 pounds of ascorbic acid, source of vitamin C; 18,500 pounds of fish-liver oil; nearly 50,000 gallons of concentrated orange juice, with the vitamin B₁ also to be supplied, reports Country Gentleman, August.

Farm Crops
Take Wing

A feature article, "Crops Take Wings" — in Country Gentleman for August tells about expansion in air farm freight, and predicts that national defense plane production will serve as a great stimulus to further such expansion after the national emergency has passed.

Argentine Rape
Proves A Weed

August Farm Journal reports that Argentine Rape, bought and planted by many midwest farmers this year in place of Dwarf Essex rape which was unavailable because of the war, has turned out to be a bad weed, similar to wild mustard. Farmers have been advised to control it by preventing seed production. Argentine Rape is impalatable to livestock.

Irrigations
Effect Sizes
Of Dried Prunes

Lack of available moisture during the growing season definitely decreases the number of large dried fruits that can be obtained from a crop of prunes, according to evidence obtained by Drs. A. H. Hendrickson and F. J. Veihmeyer of the University of California College of Agriculture.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 34.

Section 1

August 18, 1941.

RISE IN FOOD
PRICES FAILS TO
DENT U.S. DIET

A UP report to the New York Times (Aug. 18) says that the average American family eats the same quantities of the same foods which it ate a year ago, despite a 12 percent rise in the cost of meals since August, 1940. A national food survey revealed that housewives, protesting the month-by-month advance in food prices, have not yet translated their opposition into kitchen economy.

COTTON PRICES
LOSE GROUND FOR
3 STRAIGHT WEEKS

The New York Times for August 18 says that for the third successive week, cotton prices last week continued to lose ground. The continued downward trend was attributed to numerous factors including: the impending movement of the new crop, uncertainty to the ultimate fate of the loan cotton freezing bill and progress being made on the price control measure, an improvement in cotton belt weather, and uneasiness over developments in the European conflict.

RATION GAS IN 17
EASTERN STATES

A sweeping gasoline-rationing system for 17 Eastern States, which means a cut of about 20 percent in the fuel available for autos used for pleasure or "non-essential" purposes, was set up by OPACS, according to an Associated Press report to the Baltimore Sun. The announcement said "it is expected that more severe curtailments will be necessary in the future."

SHADE TREE MEETING
IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

August 26-29 should be marked on the calendar of every man engaged in any phase of tree work, says TREES, The Journal of American Arboriculture in its July-August issue. On those dates the National Shade Tree Conference will be in session in Washington, D. C. at the Mayflower Hotel.

TREES NEED PROTECTION
AGAINST LIGHTNING

TREES, the Journal of American Arboriculture, reports that satisfactory protection against lightning for highly valued trees may be afforded by a cable strung from near the tree top, and leading down to one or more grounds in permanently moist soil outside the normal root area. Purpose is to provide ready passage for electric current from earth to cloud or from cloud to earth along the conductor, rather than through the tissues of the tree. The article adds that nothing can be done for a badly shattered tree.

Cereal Antioxidant
Prevents Tallowiness
In Butter

Development of off-flavors can be retarded and the keeping quality of butter improved through the use of a sirupy cereal concentrate,

it has been indicated by tests, report W. J.

Corbett and P. H. Tracy, Department of Dairy Husbandry, University of Illinois, Urbana, and C. N. Hansen, Beatrice Creamery Co., Champaign, Ill., in August Food Industries. When the concentrate was added to sweet (No. 1) cream in the proportion of 0.15 to 0.3 percent of the fat content of the cream, the development of oxidation flavors in susceptible butter was retarded. When it was added to sour (No. 2) cream in the proportion of 0.1 to 0.3 percent of the fat content of the cream, the score of the resulting butter was improved as much as one point and the butter usually had less of an "old cream" flavor.

Locker Plant
Survey in Nebraska

Nine-tenths of the farm families reporting in a survey made by the University of Nebraska college of agriculture extension service, were within 25 miles of freezing locker service, and two-thirds of these families use the service at least part of the year, August Ice and Refrigeration reported. The report showed that 110 families, or nearly half of those reporting, paid freezer locker rent the year around and seven per cent of the farm living expense, average \$355 per year, was derived from farm production of ice and fuel. Nebraska now ranks fifth in the nation in the number of freezer locker plants operating.

Crushed Ice Supplants
Precooling of Trucks

An evolution in the shipment of perishable produce which has developed in California in recent years has resulted in a substantial increase in the demand for crushed- or snow-icing for trucks, with a corresponding decrease in the calls for truck precooling by ice companies reports August Ice and Refrigeration. One of the principal reasons for the decline of truck precooling is the saving of time achieved by the use of crushed ice. To thoroughly precool a load requires approximately eight hours, whereas, with the snow-ice machines with which many ice plants are now equipped, a truck can be given a "blow" job in 15 to 20 minutes, and be on its way.

Broodiness
Not Sex-Linked

Pacific Rural Press, August 9, says that Massachusetts Experiment Station tests for a ten-year period with Rhode Island Reds using 72 sires and 210 dams producing 1767 daughters show (1) that broodiness is not sex-linked; (2) that dams going broody during their first laying years had twice the number of broody daughters as dams in which the broody instinct did not appear until the second or third laying year.

Clover Element May Prevent Blood Clot August 16 Pathfinder reports that after seven years of research, Prof. Karl Paul Link and associates of the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station, have succeeded in isolating and synthesizing the sweet clover element that delays blood clotting. Hope is held that the white, crystalline substance which can be taken by mouth in gelatin, may be effectively used in treating such difficult diseases as thrombosis in which blood clots become lodged in the heart or lungs and sometimes causes sudden death.

Rain Needs In Many Sections The U. S. Weather Bureau's weekly weather and crop bulletin for August 13, reports that with the close of the third week of high temperatures and without extensive rainfall over central and northern portions of the country east of the Rocky Mountains, drouth conditions in those areas are becoming progressively intensified. A good, general soaking rain is needed everywhere outside of the Southern States, from the Great Plains eastward.

Spinach High In Vitamin K Spinach is one of the richest sources of the anti-bleeding vitamin K, according to a list of sources of this vitamin which appears in a new book, Vitamin K, (Reviewed in August 9 Science News Letter).

Wrapping Ruling On Meats The USDA has issued the following...relative to the use of transparent coverings for meats and meat food products, reports Butchers' Advocate of July 23: "Wrappers or other coverings for sliced bacon or similar sliced meats or fresh sausage shall not bear parallel lines, serially repeated figures, or similar designs, in any shade of red, whether such decorations wholly or but partially cover the contents of the package. Wrappers or casings of any shade of red shall not be used as coverings for fresh meat food products such as hamburger and fresh sausage. Such wrappers or casings may be used on such products as chili con carne, processed sausage, or sausage-like products and loaves. Wrappers or casings of the more intense shades of amber or smoked color shall not be used as coverings of meat and meat food products. Such coverings in the lighter shades may be used, but only on meats which have been smoked to such degree as imparts a distinct smoked appearance or on meat food products such as loaves which have been heated in an oven to such degree as imparts a distinct baked appearance."

Fertilizer Sales In 17 States Up 71% An Associated Press report to the Wall Street Journal, Aug. 15, said that the National Fertilizer Association announced 13 of 17 States reporting, showed larger fertilizer tax tag sales for July, 1941 than July of a year ago, and that for the 17 States in aggregate the increase was 71 per cent.

Set Ceiling On
Burlap Prices

A price ceiling on burlap 20 per cent below quotations on the New York spot market on August 15, was announced Saturday by Price Control Administrator Leon Henderson according to a report in the Journal of Commerce. Imported from India, and widely used in this country in packaging feed, fertilizer, and agricultural and industrial products, burlap has more than doubled in price during the last 12 months, Mr. Henderson said.

More Hogs In Canada;
Fewer In Denmark

Canadian hog numbers reached about 6,250,000 in June, according to estimates of the American agricultural attache stationed at Ottawa, says August 18, Foreign Crops and Markets. This would be an increase of six percent compared with the number on hand in June 1940, and 15 percent over the preceding June estimate. In Denmark, on the other hand, hogs were reduced by 14 percent between June 1940 and April 1941 and still further since. Poultry numbers were reduced by 62 percent because the blockade has cut off imports of foreign feedstuffs.

More Cheese To
Be Rationed To
British

A weekend cable to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations says that the British Ministry of Food announced weekly cheese rations will be increased from 2 to 3 ounces per person for ordinary consumers from August 25. Ration of 8 ounces for priority classes will remain unchanged.

Wheat Production
Slumps In Canada
And Australia

Canada's winter wheat crop of 16,417,000 bushels was about five percent under the Dominion's average during the 1935-39 period, according to a report in Foreign Crops and Markets for August 18. Australia's wheat production was also reduced, the smallest in 20 years. Estimated harvest of 83,192,000 bushels from 12,386,000 acres sown indicates an average yield per acre of only 6.7 bushels.

Corn Is Valuable
But Hard On Soil

Unknown to the Old World before the discovery of the New, its origin buried, perhaps forever, with the ancient cultures of the Americas, the great grass corn now ranks second only to wheat as the most important food plant in the world, writes William R. Van Dersal in the August issue of Soil Conservation. But for all its excellent attributes, corn remains a dangerous crop for certain soils, requiring special conserving and cultural practices to produce it without damage to the land.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 35.

Section 1

August 19, 1941.

WOOL CONSUMPTION
AT RECORD LEVEL
SAYS ASSOCIATION

The highest record of apparel wool consumption ever reported in the United States was made last June, the National Association of Wool Manufacturers has just announced according to a report in the August 19 New York Journal of Commerce. The association says that 10,500,000 pounds of scoured wool (representing more than twice that weight of wool as it is shorn from the sheep) was used in the mills of the country last June.

RETAIL AND WHOLE-
SALE FOOD ACTIVITY
HIGHER THAN 1940

Retail and wholesale food activity continued at high levels last week, registering large percentage gains over the same week a year ago, the American Institute of Food Distribution, Inc., reported yesterday, says the August 19 New York Herald Tribune. Retail sales were about 17 percent higher. About one-half of this gain represented higher prices.

ARMY OF PURCHASERS
BUYING FOR BRITISH
IN UNITED STATES

An article by Gerald Griffin in the Baltimore Sun says that a small army of experts numbering more than 4,000 are buying for the British in the United States.

FORECAST SLOWER
RISE IN DEMAND
FOR FARM PRODUCTS

USDA economists look for a continued rise in the demand for farm products the remainder of this year, but at a slower rate than during the first six months of 1941, says the August Demand and Price Situation. This forecast is conditioned on the prospect that the general trend of industrial activity "may flatten out during the next several months as a result of the necessary diversion of materials and labor from civilian to defense production." The report indicated that consumers will have larger buying power for the purchase of food and clothing during the remainder of this year; also that a continued strong storage and speculative demand for farm products is in prospect.

GREEKS FACE
STARVATION SAYS
FOUNDATION HEAD

Miss Alice G. Carr, director of the Near East Foundation in Greece, arriving in the United States from Lisbon aboard the American Export Liner Exeter, said that the food situation in Greece was becoming so serious that there probably would be many deaths from starvation this winter. The Greek people, she said, are hoping the United States will send food.

Harvesters Race
Panzers For Wheat
In The Ukraine

Effects of the Nazi invasion on Soviet agricultural economy are still not clear after 7 weeks of warfare, the U. S. Department of Agriculture said this week in the publication Foreign Crops and Markets. In the south and west, the Nazis and their allies have apparently succeeded in penetrating or occupying the western tier of Provinces of the Russian Ukraine and a drive in the direction of southern Ukraine is now reported. The western Ukraine in the fertile black-soil belt, is the principal sugar-beet-growing region of the Soviet Union, comprising nearly 40 percent of the total Soviet sugar-beet acreage. In addition, it is also an important winter-wheat-growing region, with high per-acre yields and accounting for about one-fifth of the total Ukrainian wheat acreage. Wheat and other small grains are usually harvested during the latter part of July and early in August, and sugar beets in the early autumn. It is not known how much of the grain crop was saved by the Russians. Grain crops in the southern Ukraine and in Crimea should be largely harvested by the middle of August. How far it would be possible to save the crop in that area, should the southward move of the Nazi war machine succeed, would depend largely upon the ability of the heavily overburdened Russian railroads to move the grain. The out-turn of all crops is said to be good and in some areas excellent.

Expand REA Service
To Meet National
Defense Needs

Results of a nation-wide survey just completed show that Rural Electrification Administration is making electricity available to an ever-increasing number of industries, says an article in the August issue of Rural Electrification News. On Jan. 1, 1941 the number of loads which require service transformer capacity of 5 kilovolt-amperes or more had increased 53 percent during the year from 3,507 to 5,365.

REA Helps Save
Food Resources

Preservation of existing food resources is an essential part of the food-for-defense program, says Rural Electrification News for August. Cold-storage plants, financed by REA make possible inexpensive local storage of fresh meat, eggs, and vegetables formerly wasted.

Sec. Wickard Says
REA Can Help
Defense

"Electricity has proved its worth as an efficient tool in agricultural processes and in the farm home. Wisely used, it can increase our usable supplies of the very things which we most need in this time of national emergency," said Secretary Wickard in a letter to all REA systems urging them to make electricity count for defense.

Farm Machinery
Small Competitor
For Defense Metals

Fortunately, there can be plenty of farm machinery without encroaching on the materials needed for direct defense industries, says Fred A. Wirt, Agricultural engineer, J. I. Case Co., in an article entitled "Farm Machinery Is An Essential Part of National Defense," appearing in the August 15 issue of The Indiana Farmers' Guide. According to the publication, Defense, farm operating equipment takes less than one percent of our copper, chromium, nickel, tin, aluminum, lead and zinc, and only about two percent of our iron and steel production.

War Nerves Boosts
Tobacco Consumption

War nerves and the increased tempo of living is working as a boon for the nation's tobacco farmers. August 16 Business Week says that during the last war Americans began smoking cigarettes in earnest. Total U.S. consumption in 1914 was a little more than 16 billion units -- about the equivalent of a single month's smoking now. By 1920 it had jumped to over 50 billion. If sales increases continue at their present rate, the total for this year is likely to be only fractionally short of 200 billion units.

No Lethargy In
This Democracy,
Says Bennett

In an article entitled "Look at America" -- A Great Democracy Does Things! appearing in the August issue of Soil Conservation, Hugh H. Bennett, Chief of the Soil Conservation Service says that farmers of America in less than five years have voted to establish more than 530 soil-conservation districts embracing over 325 million acres of farm and ranch land. Action in establishing districts was taken when a survey in 1935 revealed that approximately one-third of the topsoil of the nation had been lost by erosion since the Revolutionary War.

Offer Family Tree
For Duroc Breeders

A novel method for breeders of Duroc swine to trace their own herd boars back to their beginning, is a "family tree" insert included in the August edition of The Duroc News. The insert accompanies an article entitled "The Duroc Family Tree" by J. C. Holbert of Iowa State College.

Lists Advantages
Of Market Hog Shows

J. S. Coffey of Ohio State University, lists four important attainments of the market hog show in an article, Value of Market Hog Shows, in the August issue of The Duroc News. Points listed are: (1) Ham development in all breeds of swine has been improved, (2) elimination of the tall gangling hog, (3) improvement in smoothness and quality in all breeds, and (4) progress in establishing a genuine meat-type hog.

Rotenone -- Is A
"Harmless" Poison

The line of peculiar toxicity of rotenone -- widely used insecticide -- has been drawn between cold and warm-blooded animal life, says the Summer issue of Michigan State College Veterinarian. It is extremely poisonous to fish, reptiles, and many insects, but has been demonstrated as harmless to poultry, domestic animals and man. Numerous tests have been made that indicate when pure rotenone is administered by mouth, no visible effects are produced in dogs in doses up to one grain per pound of body weight.

Soil Conservation
Service Issues
New Publication

Soil Conservation Districts in Action on the Land is the title of a new U.S. Department of Agriculture miscellaneous publication, No. 448, by Glenn K. Rule of the Soil Conservation Service, in collaboration with district supervisors. This illustrated booklet tells about operation of the districts in various sections of the nation, and is available for 15 cents from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C.

Issue New Bulletin
On Insect Control
In Stored Grain

A new Farmers' Bulletin, No. 1880, entitled -- Control of Insect Pests of Grain in Elevator Storage -- has just been issued by the Department of Agriculture, and a free copy is available. Methods for protecting the millions of bushels of grain placed in storage in terminal elevators annually are described.

Advertise Defense
Bonds On Cigarette
Packages

The August 12 Western Tobacco Journal pictorially shows an example of how industry can cooperate with the U.S. Treasury in helping the sale of defense bonds and stamps. A cigarette package with the reverse side devoted to an appeal to purchase U.S. Defense Bonds and Stamps is pictured. It is expected that the idea may start a wave of similar promotion for defense bonds by other companies who produce packaged goods reaching millions of American families.

Study Effects Of
Orchard Mulching

The Effect of Certain Orchard Practices on the Potassium Status of a New York Fruit Soil is discussed by Walter Reuther, formerly of Cornell University and now with the Bureau of Plant Industry, USDA, in the August issue of Soil Science. Studies reviewed in the article emphasize that high potassium content of mulching materials should be given more attention in the evaluation of the effects of mulching as an agricultural practice.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXII, No. 36.

Section 1

August 20, 1941.

U.S. NOT SUITED FOR SILKWORMS

There is little likelihood of growing silkworms in this country, says a report in the New York Journal of Commerce (Aug. 20). Since the U. S. stopped importing silk, the college of agriculture at Cornell has been receiving requests about growing mulberry trees on which silkworms feed, and report that little or no success is in store for would-be producers of raw silk in this country. Those mulberry trees on which the silkworms feed are not hardy in the Northern part of the United States, and are easily winter-killed. In the South, the trees may live, but the worms do not seem to thrive.

INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY NOW AT HIGH LEVEL

With further increases in the machinery, aircraft, shipbuilding and lumber industries off-setting reductions in activity in automobile factories and steel mills, industrial activity in July and the first half of August was maintained at the high level reached in June, the Federal Reserve Board reported today, according to The New York Times (Aug. 20). Wholesale commodity prices advanced further and distribution of commodities to consumers was in exceptionally large volume. The board's adjusted index of production which includes allowances for a considerable seasonal decline at this time, advanced from 157 to 162 percent of the 1935-39 average.

MORE MONEY FOR GEORGIA TOBACCO GROWERS THIS YEAR

Georgia tobacco growers counted approximately \$10,000,000 in cash, and saw a chance of exceeding the dollar value of the last two crops sold, as auctioneers sang into the last third of the 1941 bright-leaf sales period, says an Associated Press report in the August 20 Baltimore Sun. Already sold was a total of 44,249,419 pounds of tobacco. Average prices have remained well above the 19.86 cents average set at a minimum by the United States Department of Agriculture before the sales season opened.

CO-OP MEMBERS SAY 110% PARITY TOO LOW FOR FARMERS

More than 450 delegates representing 1,000,000 farm families protested today against the price pegging program and went on record as opposed to the putting of maximum prices on any commodities until agriculture is put on an equal footing with industry and labor, reports the New York Times, Aug. 20. The delegates, attending an emergency meeting called by the National Cooperative Milk Producers Federation, adopted a series of resolutions opposing Federal policies which they asserted were "forcing the American farmer to the lowest straits of living conditions."

Study Synthetic Soil As Bacteria Medium In the August issue of Soil Science, H. J. Conn and J. E. Conn of the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station discuss synthetic soil as a bacteriological culture medium. Their investigations are of value indicating what factors in the composition of natural soil are most important for the growth of bacteria, and they suggest the composition of a culture medium for soil bacteria which may have properties similar to natural soil without being of such indefinite composition.

Report On Use Of Gramicidin As Mastitis Treatment A preliminary report of Gramicidin for treating chronic streptococcic bovine mastitis by Jacob Greenberg and C. S. Bryan appears in the Summer issue of the Michigan State College Veterinarian. In their experiment, Bryan and Greenberg treated 20 infected quarters, 19 of which have remained negative since. Seventeen negative quarters responded to one treatment, while two quarters required two treatments.

New Plant Disease Attacks Mimosas Mimosa trees, widely planted for ornament and shade throughout the warmer parts of this country, are in danger from a new disease, combining symptoms of the plant diseases known as wilt and yellows. It kills a large proportion of the trees, says Science Service. The new disease, described in the current issue of Phytopathology by Dr. E. Richard Toole of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, was originally discovered by a fellow worker in the Department, Dr. George H. Hepting, with headquarters at Asheville, N. C. It is known at present to be distributed from Virginia to Georgia.

Recommends Two New Southern Lawn Grasses D. G. Sturkie, associate agronomist of the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station recommends and describes two new lawn grasses in an article appearing in the August 15 issue of Southern Florist and Nurseryman. The new grasses are Centipede and Zoysia, both which have been brought from the Orient.

Indiana Now Celebrating Tomato Week This is Tomato Week in Indiana, says Canning Trade for August 16, and canners of the state have selected representatives to compete in the annual State Tomato Picking Contest to be held August 21 at Vincennes. Because of their role in national defense, tomatoes are particularly important this year.

Tells Growers How To Sell To Army An article by J. R. Cavanagh of the War Department in Aug. Marketing Activities tells how fruit and vegetable growers can "go after" army business. Army purchasing of fresh fruits and vegetables now amounts to approximately \$1,500,000 monthly.

More Canned Goods
Going Into Glass

National defense has caused the glass container industry to take on a new significance in the home, says The Canner for August 16. With all the nation defense-minded, the glass industry, which uses no raw materials essential to rearmament, is enjoying an unprecedented expansion. As a consequence, the housewife is seeing some new and ingenious packages for foods and other household products.

Pre-Milking Cows
Reduces Udder
Injury, Tests Show

Professors H. P. Davis and G. W. Trimberger reported that swelling, inflammation and physical strain to which the udder is subjected, can be greatly reduced by milking a cow before parturition, says an article entitled University of Nebraska Experiments with Pre-milking in the August issue of The Ayrshire Digest. Cows were milked for approximately seven days prior to calving, and it was found that although milk production was not as heavy as expected, there was apparently less shock at parturition, and not a single case of milk fever followed pre-calving milking.

Texas Grows
More Potatoes

About 15,000 acres of potatoes are under cultivation this year in the Texas Panhandle, and yields on July 1 were forecast at 225 bushels per acre, says an article in August A.M.S. Market Activities. No one knows what the future holds for the potato growing experiment in Texas. Considering the water situation, the development may be spectacular and relatively short-lived. With systematic water-control measures, however, it may become a permanent feature of agriculture in the Southwest.

Bakers Indorse Whole
Wheat Levels For
Enriched Bread

The August 16 issue of Bakers Weekly reported that the American Bakers' Association indorsed the National Research Council's proposal for substantial adherence to whole wheat levels for enriched bread. The public hearing on standards for enriched bread, rolls, and buns began August 11 at the Public Health Auditorium in Washington, D. C. One important proposal made was that the riboflavin (B₂) requirement be suspended pending assurance of an adequate supply.

Farmers Spread
More Fertilizer

More commercial fertilizer was used by American farmers in 1940 than in any previous year, according to a report received from the National Fertilizer Association, says The Grain and Feed Review for August. Farmers used 8,311,000 tons, of which 7,839,000 tons were sold commercially.

More Oranges
Are Eaten

Consumption of summer oranges in America has risen from 5.2 pounds per person in 1919-20 to 13.2 pounds in 1938-39. During the same period, the total consumption of fresh fruits rose from 120.7 lbs. to 147.4 lbs. per person.

Plastic Field
Crates Next?

Possibility that Florida citrus field crates soon will be made of plastics with citrus pulp as a base was expressed by H. I. Mossbarger, Miami, president and manager of the Florida Research Foundation, says August Citrus Leaves. Sulphuric acid would be mixed with citrus pulp to effect the plastic. The Foundation starts work at once on a program in which some of the \$50,000 recently approved by the Florida legislature for citrus research will be expended.

Seek Ways To Make
Wood Fire-Resistant

August Forest and Outdoors says that research in fire-retardant chemicals and paints is helping Canada's lumber industry meet the exacting demands of wartime, according to Forest Products Laboratories. Where there is an unusual fire hazard, treating with certain chemicals renders the outer portions of large timber members non-inflammable, thus greatly increasing their resistance to fire.

Barn-Dried Hay
Has Advantages

Because usual methods of hay-making expose the hay to considerable loss from leaf shattering, leaching, and bleaching, a barn-curing system may well be worth an investment of from \$250 to \$350 for blower, motor, lumber, electrical supplies, and an average operation cost of only 39 kilowatt hours per ton, says an article in Agricultural Engineering for August. Methods of construction are outlined, and the article says that during 1940, approximately 748 tons of hay were cured in barn-type curing systems known to be in operation in the country at an average power consumption of 39 kwhr per ton.

Parasitic Wasp
Outpoints Black
Scale In Orchards

While numerous parasites have been imported, propagated and liberated in hopes that they would eradicate or at least reduce, infestations of black scale in California's citrus groves, it is to the tiny wasp known scientifically as *Metaphycus helvolus* that most of the credit is given for this year's unusual black scale control, says August issue of Citrus Leaves.

Firmer Tomatoes With
Calcium Chloride

Canned whole tomatoes treated with calcium chloride to increase the firmness of the flesh will show evidences of the salt having penetrated the inner cells of the fruit within 24 hours, and within ten days the distribution of the calcium chloride throughout the whole tomatoes is complete, according to recent findings of Dr. A. K. Kertesz, chemist at the Geneva, New York State Experiment Station, who devised the process that is now widely used in the canning industry, says Fruit Products Journal, August. Last year, following hearings in Washington, official approval was given to an amendment of the pure food law permitting the addition of small amounts of calcium chloride to canned tomatoes to increase tomato firmness.

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Section 1

August 21, 1941.

COTTON MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR JUTE IN BAGGING

An industry committee composed of manufacturers of bags and bag fabrics met with Government officials Tuesday to discuss methods of enlarging the output of bag fabrics. Shortages, both for agricultural and military purposes have been occasioned by curtailed burlap imports, says the New York Journal of Commerce (Aug. 21). Anticipating a probable reduction of 50 percent in burlap supplies, it was estimated that the cotton textile industry would need to produce at least 250 million yards of bag fabric in the next 12 months in addition to current production.

DEVELOP NEW-TYPE CELLULAR RUBBER FOR DEFENSE

A new material known as cellular rubber, which is half the weight of cork, is being produced by the U. S. Rubber Company in considerable volume for national defense needs, and further development for peacetime use is foreseen, the company announced yesterday according to a report in the New York Times (Aug. 21). Sponge rubber, it was explained, is formed of cells which communicate and thus is easily penetrated by water and useful in sopping up water. Cellular rubber is formed of cells completely walled off from each other, each cell, containing a tiny bubble of gas. It is therefore water-resistant and useful in flotation devices.

OPEN NEW CENTER TO STUDY WASTE ELIMINATION

Out of the garbage pail came the inspiration for the 2-week old Anti-Waste Center, Inc., which was described yesterday as an important organization "in the defense set-up" by Major Edward G. Riekert, executive director of the Office of Civilian Defense, Second Corps Area, says the New York Times, August 21. As an aid to prevent possible food shortages in this country, the Center was founded by Miss Rica Cowdery, food technician, who returned here four months ago after supervising emergency feedings in England and France. She was appalled, she said, by the amount of food wasted by the average American housewife. For example, "second-hand" coffee is one short-cut to saving, according to Miss Cowdery. Used coffee grounds are kept for the second day and to them are added half the usual amount of water. The mixture is then boiled three times.

Cotton Prices
Show New
Strength

Fear of developments in Washington, unfavorable overnight weather conditions and indications that part of the early receipts in Texas are headed for the loan stocks, stiffened the cotton market yesterday, and final prices were 36 to 37 points higher, reports the Aug. 21 New York Herald Tribune.

Phenothiazine May
Endanger Livestock

Phenothiazine, the new drug which has been found effective in treating certain livestock parasites, must be used carefully to avoid overdosing, animal pathologists of the Illinois College of Agriculture caution in an article appearing in the Aug. Chester White Journal. If too much phenothiazine is given, or if the recommended dose is given sensitive animals, alarming effects may result.

Butter Price
Near Peak
For The Year

Wholesale butter prices advanced to 35 cents, within 2 cents of the year's peak yesterday, reflecting Government purchase of cheese, reports of declining butter production, and the President's comments on the possible duration of the war, says an Associated Press report to the Baltimore Sun, (Aug. 21). A year ago butter was 26½ cents a pound.

Grain Storage
Space Lacking

With Baltimore grain elevators filled to near-capacity, the Legislative Council, meeting at Annapolis yesterday, took steps to extend relief to wheat farmers on the Eastern Shore who can find no storage space for this year's crop, says the Aug. 21 Baltimore Sun.

Sodium Arsenite
Can Be Used To
Destroy Poison Ivy

Owing to defense priority claims on sodium chlorate, destroyer of poison ivy, sodium arsenite is now coming into the picture as a capable substitute, says Better Farms (Aug. 15). Eight ounces to a gallon of water, is the rate of dilution, when the spray is applied as to just wet the vegetation. A second spray a month later, when a new growth appears, is necessary to kill. The item warns that sodium arsenite is a rank poison, and workmen who handle it should protect the nose with a wet handkerchief, since it is irritating to the mucous membrane and skin. Milk or magnesia smeared on the skin protects the cuticle.

She Clips Wings
Of Queen Bees

To prevent her bees from swarming -- keeping old queens from departing from the hive with a few thousand of her followers -- Mrs. Ruth E. Humphrey, a woman beekeeper of Warsaw, N.Y. clips the wings of her queen bees every season, says an article in Better Farms for Aug. 15.

Cotton Consumption
Up 2 Million Bales

Consumption of cotton by American mills during the season ending July 31 totaled 9,718,220 running bales, according to the report of the census bureau says The Cotton Digest, August 16. This is compared with 7,783,774 bales consumed during the previous season.

More Cottonseed Oil
Used In Margarine

A total of 135,973,000 pounds of cottonseed oil was used in the production of margarine during the 1940-41 fiscal year, a report issued by the Bureau of Internal Revenue revealed. Cottonseed oil has risen to a position of first rank in the production of this commodity, constituting 50 percent of all the fats and oils thus used, says The Cotton Digest, August 16.

Tree Experts Form
New Association

An association of Certified Tree Experts was organized at a recent meeting held at Newark, N. J., says the American Nurseryman for August. Fifteen tree men successfully passed the examination given by the tree expert bureau of the New Jersey Department of conservation and development, and became charter members of the new organization.

Seek Blight-
Resistant Chestnut
Trees for U. S.

Since the disappearance of the native American chestnut as a result of the chestnut blight, the search for chestnuts resistant to blight has attracted wide attention, not merely because the discovery might make possible the reestablishment of a lost tree, but also because it would restore to American markets a peculiarly American product, says the August issue of the American Nurseryman. In this search, R. B. Clapper of the division of forest pathology, USDA, now has more than 5,000 hybrid Asiatic chestnuts under test, some of which look promising for orchard, forest or game food purposes, but further trials are needed before their value will be known.

\$14,000,000 Lost
In Marketing
Livestock

The National Livestock Loss Prevention Board reports that the annual loss from bruising of slaughter livestock being shipped to market is nine million dollars. Losses from crippling, death, and hidden damage to hides and carcasses amounts to another five million, says The Chester White Journal for August. Five suggestions are listed to reduce this important profit-leak.

Bindweed Staged
Offensive in 1941

The spring of 1941 saw the greatest bindweed offensive yet staged by this pest in Colorado, says Aug. 15 Western Farm Life. Today, on the eastern slope of Colorado millions of bindweed seedlings are driving vigorous tap roots deep into the best soils. Now it is difficult to find a farm of any size that does not have its patch of this fast-growing weed.

Sulfur Salt Not
Fly-Repellent

The Kansas Agricultural Experiment station dispels the tradition that cattle fed salt, to which sulfur is added, will not be annoyed by flies. Cattle with access to salt to which sulfur had been added, and sold as fly repellent, gained slightly less and were annoyed just as much as cows eating ordinary salt, says Better Farms, August 15.

Issue Circular
On Water Intake
In Soils

Studies on the rate of soil intake are reported by F. L. Duley, senior soil conservationist, and L. L. Kelly, assistant hydraulic engineer, in a new United States Department of Agriculture Circular No. 608 entitled -- Surface Condition of Soil and Time of Application as Related to Intake of Water. Studies appear to indicate that a constant rate of intake is more closely associated with the set of surface conditions rather than with a specific soil. Straw on the surface of the test plots was observed to reduce erosion greatly. Even when there was considerable run-off, the water carried very little soil material.

Ford Sees Bright
Future In Farm
Chemurgy

Henry Ford, at 78, visions a turning of industry, in its search for materials, "from the forest and mine to the farm," says August 10 News Bulletin of the National Farm Chemurgic Council. More enthusiastic than ever over the prospects of a closer alliance between industry and agriculture, Mr. Ford stated that literally tens of thousands of articles and manufactured parts now made from metals will be made plastically from materials grown on the farm. "We have found more than twenty different elements in wheat, all of which can be used industrially. For example, wheat contains much starch. We use 30 tons of starch a day in making cores for castings." The Ford Company engineers recently began experimental work on a refrigerator made of plastics and on other household appliances.

Lumbermen To Be
Represented In
Priorities Problems

Recognizing that the problem of priorities is becoming more complicated daily, and that priorities will have a continually increasing effect on logging and sawmill operations, the National Lumber Manufacturers Association has established a special staff for handling lumber's representation on priority matters before the Priorities Division of OPM, and as a means of providing information and service to loggers and manufacturers, says the August 15 Gulf Coast Lumberman.

DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

August 22, 1941.

PRIORITIES CLEAR WAY FOR FARM MACHINERY

A broad plan directly affecting farmers and producers of farm machinery in all parts of the country, designed to speed production of new farm equipment and facilitate maintenance of existing machines, was announced Aug. 22 by E. R. Stettinius, Jr., Director of Priorities, OPM. The new plan involves two preference rating orders. One order assigns a defense rating -- A-10 -- to deliveries of materials necessary for the production of parts for the repair and maintenance of existing farm equipment. The other assigns the highest civilian rating -- B-1 -- to deliveries of materials (which appear on the priorities critical list) to a manufacturer who needs them for the production of new farm machinery.

HITLER ORDERS NEW STUDY OF VITAMINS

Adolf Hitler has ordered creation of an institute for vitamin testing and research "for the treatment of questions arising regarding the vitamin supply of the German people, and for the guidance of the government in measures to be taken," says a UP report from Berlin in the New York Herald Tribune (Aug. 22). The institute will be directed by the Ministries of the Interior and Food.

ISSUE ORDER TO CONSERVE COTTON LINTERS

An order prohibiting the sale of second-run cotton linters, or more than 20 percent of mill-run linters, for any purpose other than ultimate use in the chemical industry, was issued August 20 by E. R. Stettinius, Jr., Director of Priorities, OPM. Cotton linters are the fibers adhering to the cottonseed hull after cotton has passed through a gin, and are essential to the manufacture of smokeless powder, plastics and acetate rayons. To date there is a shortage for the essential civilian uses. The order should prevent military shortage.

EGGS HIGHEST FOR AUGUST SINCE 1929

Scarcity of fresh supplies in the face of record production is causing a boom in egg prices, trade experts said as prices in the wholesale market today recorded gains of $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 cent a dozen, says an AP report in the Aug. 22 Baltimore Sun. Quotations moved to new peak levels for the year and to the best August prices since 1929.

Many Human Diseases
Also Diseases
Of Animals

Close cooperation between "those physicians who treat animals and those who treat human beings" was urged by Dr. Thurman B. Rice, chief of the Bureau of Health and Physical Education, Indiana State Board of Health, in an address before the meeting of the American Veterinary Association in Indianapolis, reports Science Service. Nearly half of the diseases that attack human beings, Dr. Rice told his audience, are also diseases of animals. The M.D. must perforce depend on the V.D. for most of his information about disease in animals, the speaker continued. The diseases of animals are so varied that the medical student has little opportunity to learn much about them. "The medical and health profession are very glad indeed to welcome the cooperation of the veterinary profession to the end that the health of man and beast may be as good as possible, particularly in these times of national emergency."

Vitamin C Helps
Animals Survive
With Little Oxygen

Science Service reports that oxygen starvation of the tissues can be fended off by injections of ascorbic acid, the vitamin that prevents scurvy, according to J. M. Peterson of the Physiology Institute of Cardiff, Wales. One of his fellow workers, Dr. B. G. B. Lucas, put pairs of mice, one injected with the vitamin, the other without injection, into air at only about one-eighth of normal atmospheric pressure. The treated mice survived, while their companions died. While Mr. Peterson does not suggest applications of these findings to human beings, it seems possible that injections or heavy feedings of ascorbic acid might be beneficial to aviators, mountain-climbers and other persons exposed frequently or for long periods to atmospheres too rare to yield a normal supply of oxygen.

Eye Disease In
Cattle Cuts
Meat, Milk Yield

Keratitis, a serious disease of the outer coating of the eye that eventually results in blindness, afflicts cattle as well as human beings. In dairy herds it brings about reduction in milk yield as high as 32%, and beef cattle are often as severely affected in reduction of their meat production, says a report in Science Service. There are two types of keratitis in cattle. One is infectious, due to the spread of the causal bacteria from animal to animal. The other is due to deficiency of vitamin A, and is especially likely to occur in lot-fed cattle, that do not have access to pasture. The infectious type can be largely prevented with a vaccine made of weakened cultures of the causal germ. Correction of the vitamin A deficiency will eliminate the other type.

Racing HorsesRequire VitaminsAnd Mineral

Tips "straight from the feedbox" will have more value for racing fans if they include information on what the horse in question has actually ^{been} eating. Vitamins and mineral salts, especially calcium, have a lot to do with the performance of a thoroughbred on the track, Dr. Cassius Way, New York veterinarian, told his colleagues here at the meeting of the American Veterinary Medical Association, reports Science Service. The training diet of racehorses, Dr. Way indicated, often fails to supply the balanced array of necessary vitamins. He has made analyses of blood samples from 116 thoroughbreds in training, and finds them quite low in sugar and calcium. Blood sugar, of course, is the prime energy source for their straining muscles during the race, and when blood calcium is too low its mineral team-mate, phosphorus, is apt to be too high, at least relatively speaking. This calcium-phosphorus imbalance is apt to result in loss of appetite, an inflamed condition of the nerves, and general poor condition. A horse in that state is in no shape to win races.

Arctic ReindeerHealthier ThanDomestic Cattle

Reindeer in the Canadian Arctic, transplanted a few years ago from the Alaskan herds, are much healthier than stabled domestic cattle, and they are thriving and multiplying at a great rate, Dr. Seymour Hadwen of the Ontario Research Foundation told members of the American Veterinary Medical Association at their annual meeting, reports Science Service. Tuberculosis and contagious abortion, twin plagues of cattle in civilized countries, do not trouble the reindeer, Dr. Hadwen stated. Average age at mating for does, is two years, though some large and rapidly developing individuals mate when they are one year old. In a well-managed herd on a good range, a herd doubles in three years.

National FeedWeek Oct. 20-25

National defense demands better feeds --- better feeding, is the theme of the 1941 National Feed Week, to be celebrated Oct. 20 to 25 according to the August issue of the Feed Bag. From now until Oct. 20 streams of National Feed Week publicity will be sent out to newspapers, radio stations, farm and trade papers and general magazines, says the article.

Plan First SchoolOf Nutrition ForCornell University

Cornell University will soon establish a School of Nutrition, according to an announcement by Edmund Ezra Day, president, says a report in the Feed Bag (Aug.). Day stated that following three years of college work, the university will offer two years of specialized instruction in study of problems of animal and human nutrition. Dr. L. A. Maynard, professor of animal nutrition for more than 20 years, will be in charge of the new school, the first of its kind in the country.

Describes Autosexing A paper by W. F. Lamoreux, Cornell University
In Scientific Paper poultry department, in the July Journal of

Heredity describes the autosexing ancobar. The term, autosexing, has been used to describe a pure breed in which there is some characteristic difference between the down colors or patterns of male and female chicks that enables determination of sex at hatching time. By mating mottled Ancona females with Barred Plymouth Rock males, chicks were obtained in the F₂ and back-cross generations that were both barred and mottled. By means of differences in down color, 93 percent of all chicks produced were correctly classified with respect to sex at hatching time.

Some Improvement

With a favorable respite from high temperatures In Weather Reported in the interior and northern States and good showers over considerable areas, weather for the week was more favorable for crops, in general, than had prevailed previously, reports the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin of the U. S. Weather Bureau. In some interior localities, however, severe drouth continues with a scarcity of water for domestic purposes. Farm work generally made good progress, except there was interruption to haying, harvesting, and threshing in some late northwestern districts, and the soil is still too dry for plowing in much of the interior.

Science Must Be
Distributed To People

Science in a democracy must become the property of the people, lest both science and democracy be lost. This, in effect, is a warning contained in "The Road of a Naturalist," a new book by the well-known naturalist-author Donald Culross Peattie (Houghton Mifflin), says Science Service, August 16. Says Mr. Peattie: "What science has discovered is common property, and should be made easily available to all. This is not always remembered by a great many scientific writers who have never spoken outside of classrooms where attendance and attention are compulsory, never written a book which they could not order their students to buy. If the scientists practicing inside the college close are not always and widely understood, they may not be always and widely supported. They take that support for granted, along with their intellectual liberties. They had better look across the seas and ask themselves just how secure they are."

Scientific Photographers The Biological Photographic Association,
Plan Meeting an international group of photographers in the natural sciences, will hold its 11th annual meeting in the Hotel Buffalo, Buffalo, New York, September 11-13, 1941, reports the July issue of the Journal of Heredity.

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Section 1

August 25, 1941.

650 USDA EMPLOYEES
TAKE OFFICES IN NEW
LINCOLN, NEB. BLDG.

The Terminal Warehouse at Lincoln, Nebr. has been remodeled to provide more than 80,000 square feet of modern office space for 650 USDA employees in BAE, FSA, SCS, Land-Use Coordination, regional Solicitor's office, and the regional Office of Information, reports Arthur B. Thatcher, chief of the office of Plant and Operations. "Our efforts to consolidate Department of Agriculture offices in Lincoln constitute an example for the country," said Mr. Thatcher in an interview with press representatives at Lincoln. "No place in the country has anything like it. We're going to watch the operations here carefully. The Department, through cooperation of Lincoln's business and professional people, may be setting a pattern that can be expanded here and also be adaptable to other centers of governmental decentralization." Dewey Shaw, general business manager of the Department's Welfare Activities, went to Lincoln to help organize a cafeteria in the new building.

TO SEEK JOBS FOR
DISCHARGED DRAFTEES
IN SEPTEMBER

Brig. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, director of Selective Service, instructed local draft boards today to be ready to see that soldiers released from active duty this Autumn get their old jobs as promised, and that others are placed as soon as possible, according to a report in the New York Herald Tribune, Aug. 25. Selective Training and Service Act provides that a man inducted into military service shall receive a certificate of satisfactory service if he so completes his training. If he left a permanent position to go into the Army his employer must restore him "to such position or to a position of like seniority, status and pay unless the employer's circumstances have so changed as to make it impossible or unreasonable to do so."

FOOD SITUATION
WORSE IN FRANCE

The New York Times (Aug. 25) says in a story from Vichy, France: The question of food supplies is more important than ever in France. Severe sanctions have been taken not only against persons conducting illicit traffic but also against persons officially entrusted with regulation of supplies. Price of wheat for the new crop and for other cereals has been raised to correspond with increase in living costs for producers. Price of bread, however, will not be raised to consumers in the same proportion as the wheat price. The difference will be borne by the government.

Farm and Home
Talks For Week
Of Sept. 1

Talks scheduled for the National Farm and Home Hour radio program (NBC) for the week of Sept. 1 include: Sept. 2, Clarice Scott, BHE, "New Suits for the School Boy"; Frank George, BAE, "A Review of the Agricultural Situation"; Sept. 3, Elizabeth S. Pitt, FS, "We Visit a National Forest -- the Umpqua in Oregon"; Sept. 6, "Planning the Use of the Land" by Indiana 4-H Club Group; John C. Baker, Office of Information, "Government For The People."

Tell Italians Their
Soldiers In Russian
Wheat Fields Now

Today's two-column headline in IL Popolo Di Roma telling of the advance of Italy's soldiers on the Russian front said: "Our soldiers advanced through fields where wheat is being harvested," according to the Aug. 22 Baltimore Sun. "The Fascist regime is not only doing its utmost these days to assure the nation's supply of food for the coming winter, with much of Greece to feed as well, but it is doing its best to assure people that everything will be all right."

Farmers Will Have
More Money Says
Editorial

According to an editorial summary in the New York Journal of Commerce (Aug. 22): Total farm receipts from marketings in the latter half of the year, should be about 20 percent higher than in the last six months of 1940, even though prices still are moderately below parity on the average and the grains do not exceed 85 percent of that goal. Farmers will have much more free money to spend on goods and equipment, as a result. As a group they are sharing fully in the expanding national income.

Reports Attitude On
Farm Mortgages

The greatest apathy in the investment field today is the changed attitude of a much larger class of investors towards farm mortgages, H. F. Williams, of Minneapolis, governor of the Mortgage Bankers' Association of America, pointed out in a special study published by the association, says a report in the August 22 New York Journal of Commerce. Mr. Williams' report represents an investigation he made for the group's farm mortgage committee on behalf of its proposal to further extend F.H.A. insurance to farm loans under the National Housing Act.

Farmers Urged To
Keep Grain On
The Farm

H. H. Nuttle, State AAA chairman (Md.), disclosed recently that the State's grain-storage facilities were fast approaching peak capacity and urged wheat growers to store dry grain on the farm until additional commercial space can be provided. Grain men, who are studying the problem with a committee of farmers and railroad executives, declared the shortage was due not only to movement of Western grain to the seaboard but also to unprecedented movement of grain grown in this section. (Baltimore Sun)

Cotton Fabrics For
Roofing Gain Favor

The expansion of industrial capacity made necessary by the requirements of the defense program and the consequent rehabilitation of innumerable manufacturing plants has substantially expanded the demand for cotton fabric roofing, according to a survey just completed by the Cotton Textile Institute and National Cotton Council, says the New York Journal of Commerce, (Aug. 22). While the shortage of various metals and other materials required in armament production is partly responsible for this development, leading figures in the roofing reclamation trade claim that the main reason is cotton roofs have proved their worth over the last two decades. Tests have shown that the use of cotton fabric in conjunction with asphalt has extended life of factory roofs by as much as 15 to 20 years.

Finds Value In
Common Milkweed

How a Chicago physician, working in spare time as a hobby, has discovered economic worth in the common milk-weed, is told in the September issue of Farm Journal. Dr. Boris Berkman, following a hobby for eight years, has developed a score of industrial products from the field pest including drugs, oils, meal, plastic, insulating board and paper. Author Robert W. Howard says "Farmers cannot sell milkweeds now, maybe never. But one man, by looking, has found values in a weed. Isn't it time to look closer to the fence corners for more farm wealth?"

Predict Haymow
Barn On Way Out

In California, the trend in dairy barns is entirely to a two-barn system, one used as a feeding and loafing barn, and the other only for milking, says an article entitled "Is the Haymow a Has-Been?" by Grif McKay in the Sept. issue of Farm Journal. Some of these west-coast dairy operations are more like factory than farm; feed is purchased, hired labor does the milking, and the front of the barn is dolled up for advertising.

Important Fertilizer
Book Down To Date

In a review of the revised book "Commercial Fertilizers, Their Sources and Use," by Gilbeart H. Collings (third edition); the Blakiston Co., Philadelphia, \$4.50, the Southern Florist and Nurseryman says that the author has included results of much research data that have become available during the last three years concerning the proper use of individual fertilizer materials, and concerning the detection of nutritional deficiencies in plants and soils.

Clean Brooder
House Important

Cleanliness and plenty of space for young stock will go a long way in preventing coccidiosis in growing birds, says Aug. 10 San Diego Poultry Journal. Keeping the range and houses free of damp places is another factor in the control of this poultry disease. The magazine advises poultrymen to be sure that all drinking fountains are on wire platforms and no mud puddles are tolerated on the range. If outbreaks occur--they will be indicated by bloody droppings--clean the brooder house daily and keep the birds confined to the house.

New Book on Food

In reviewing "The American and His Food," a history of food habits in the United States by Richard Osborne Cummings, assistant professor of history, Lawrence College, M. L. Wilson, director of extension work said that it is the first scientific and scholarly book which gives the basic cultural history and panorama of the food habits of the American people. "If we had a book-of-the-month club particularly for the workers in the social sciences in relation to agriculture," Mr. Wilson commented, "this book would qualify for such an honor. Available University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Illinois.

Propose New
"Common-Sense"
Milk Can

A new, "common-sense" milk can was proposed by H. A. Trebler in the Bulletin of the International Association of Milk Dealers for March, and abstracted in the August Journal of Dairy Science. This can is seamless, 16 gauge metal with an $8\frac{1}{2}$ inch diameter, straight neck and no pouring lip. An umbrella type cover is used. The breast of the can tapers down far enough so that all of the inside can surface may be seen. The handle is the upright stiff metal type, placed a little lower than usual. The bottom has large drain holes, permitting alkali solution and water to drain rapidly. Advantages of the can are that it will drain about 30 percent faster, and leave two ounces less milk in each can when draining 14 cans per minute. It is cleaned easier with a hydraulic washer and cost of manufacture should be somewhat less, according to the author.

Find Way To Keep

Semen Active Longer A diluent for bovine semen which contains gelatin, egg yolk, buffer salts and water has been found, under improved conditions, to maintain motility of spermatozoa several days longer than a diluent containing egg yolk, buffer salts and water, says a report in the August Journal of Dairy Science by C. E. Knoop, Dairy Department, Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station. Maintenance of spermatozoa motility is important when semen is collected and saved for use in artificial insemination.

Keeping Quality Of
Butter May Be
Improved

Abstract of a paper -- Keeping Quality of Butter -- by O. F. Hunziker, in the August Journal of Dairy Science says that keeping quality is attained best by using high quality cream; eliminating contamination through adequate plant and equipment sanitation and proper pasteurization; by thorough working of butter; and by protecting cream and butter from contact with iron and copper surfaces. Salted butter made from high acid cream is more susceptible to chemical deterioration than unsalted butter. The latter is more easily damaged by bacteriological changes.

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Section 1

August 26, 1941.

REGIONAL MEETINGS
IN SEPT. TO PLAN
1942 FOOD PRODUCTION

Plans for assuring production of sufficient food in 1942 for the U.S. and for countries resisting aggression will be taken up at four regional conferences scheduled for

Sept. Representatives of the Department, the State Agricultural Planning Committees, chairmen and members of the State USDA Defense Boards, representatives of farm organizations, and others will participate. All 48 States will be represented. Secretary Wickard plans to attend each conference. Conferences will be held: Salt Lake City, September 15 and 16 for Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, California, Arizona, and New Mexico. Chicago, September 18 and 19 for North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Indiana and Ohio. New York City, September 24 and 25 for Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, Maryland, and West Virginia. Memphis, September 29 and 30 for Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Kentucky.

REPORT WORST BOLL
WEEVIL ATTACK ON
COTTON IN DECADE

An AP report in the New York Herald Tribune (Aug. 26) says: Boll weevils, eating away millions of dollars worth of the south's principal crop, are destroying more cotton this year than in any year in the past decade. From 40 to 50 percent of Georgia's crop has been destroyed by the pest, state entomologist J. A. Girardeau said. Georgia normally loses from 5 to 20 percent of its cotton because of weevils. In Louisiana, lack of calcium arsenate for dusting weevils worries agricultural officials. They said poison stock was nearly depleted by use of between 5 million and 6 million pounds and that replacements are virtually unavailable. Substitutes are being used but these are less effective. Louisiana and Arkansas agricultural departments said weevil infestation was the heaviest there in 15 years, and Texas cotton growers reported destruction was considerably heavier than in recent years.

"Slice It Yourself"
Says Canada To
Its Bread Buyers

An AP report from Ottawa, Canada in the Aug. 25 Baltimore Sun says: Canadians are going to slice their own bread and like it lest accommodating tradesmen who slice it for them get into trouble with the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. The board moved today to investigate and prosecute any who slice bread for their customers in violation of a recent order designed to conserve labor and electric power and do away with double wrapping necessary to keep sliced loaves from going stale.

Canned Food To Get
Favorable Priority

The New York Journal of Commerce (Aug. 26) says: Canned foods and dried fruits, which in normal times constitute 20 to 25 percent of the eastbound traffic in the intercoastal trade, will be accorded a favorable priority rating when ships operating in this route are put under a system of mandatory space preference.

Average American
Has More To Spend

The New York Journal of Commerce (Aug. 26) reports that a luxury buying "spree" is getting under way, with the average worker's family surplus over living costs nearly doubled in the past 12 months, and defense priorities threatening many so-called non-essentials. The American public is surging forward to buy more jewelry, furs, pianos, luggage and recreational items, according to a study of current surplus income expenditures by Northwestern National Life Insurance Co.

Gas Rationing May
Boom Horse Business

As Associated Press report from Chicago in the New York Times (Aug. 26) says: Wayne Dinsmore, of the Horse and Mule Association of America, said today that the defense program, with its demand for machines and fuel, may well halt the decline of the country's work-animal population. "Any rationing of gasoline or higher prices, and any difficulty in obtaining machines or trucks for rural or city use or in obtaining parts, is likely to be felt by the horse and mule business," he said. In 1920 the U.S. horse and mule population was about 25 million head, valued at more than \$2,700,000,000. This had dropped to 19 million head by 1930 with a valuation of \$1,400,000,000. On Jan. 1 this year the total approximated 14,500,000 head, valued at \$1,100,000,000 of which 10,300,000 were horses and colts.

Frozen Food Locker
Convention Sept. 23

Quick Frozen Foods for August says: The third annual convention of the National Frozen Food Locker Association will be held at Hotel Fontenelle, Omaha, Nebraska, Sept. 23-25.

Mrs. Roosevelt Sees An AP report to the New York Times (Aug. 26)
Defense Work-Clothes said: A preview of suggested practical
Designed By BHE but snappy togs for the well-dressed milkmaid,
farmerette and defense factory-ette, was given
at Mrs. Roosevelt's press conference at the White House today.
There was also a display of the latest in cotton stockings. Newest
things to wear when driving a tractor, feeding the chickens or
helping to make guns were modeled by girls from the Home Economics
Bureau in the Department. The designer, Clarice Scott, assistant
home economics specialist for the Department, explained that the
styles were created to be made as economically as possible and to
introduce new ideas in comfort as well as fashion to farm and
factory.

Now It's Shoes Of A report from Berlin in the Baltimore Sun
Straw In Germany (Aug. 26) says: Styles in German footwear,
directed by the wartime leather scarcity down
a gamut of ersatz materials from canvas and wood, even to glass
for heels, have now turned to straw. Shoes of straw, last year a
novelty for children, are now being demanded in such quantities that
the new "industry" is unable to fill all orders. Made of a very
close weave, the shoes are said to be waterproof. Lined with
cloth and thin leather, their arches are braced with light metal
spans. They last about a year, but must be resoled every four to
six weeks.

Welles Advises A report from Washington in the Baltimore
South Americans Sun (Aug. 26) says: Sumner Welles tonight
To "Husband" Supplies appealed to all American republics to
"husband" their supplies of materials
now "urgently" required by countries which are resisting the dictator
nations. The U.S., he asserted, is practicing "strict economy" in
use of certain of these essential commodities and a similar policy
in all the Americas would contribute to insuring the safety of the
Western Hemisphere.

British Taking Food New York Herald Tribune (Aug. 26) carries
Into Iran For Natives an Associated Press report from Simla, India,
saying: The British troops entering Iran
(Persia) are carrying food supplies for the population, British
sources said today, because the country is reported to be in a
state of near-famine as a result of heavy German food requisitioning,
presumably for storage.

Frozen Cottage Cheese Quick Frozen Foods for August reports: A
Soon To Be On Market frozen food authority who has been experimenting
for the past few months with quick frozen cottage
cheese for a New Jersey dairy, announces successful results. It is
understood that quick frozen cottage cheese will soon appear in dairy
stores in New York City.

President Vetoes
Bill To Freeze
Cotton & Wheat

The New York Times (Aug. 26) said in a report from Washington: President Roosevelt vetoed today the bill requiring the government to withhold from market during the national emergency its large stocks of wheat and cotton acquired over the last few years as a means of stabilizing prices for these crops. The President said the measure, which was passed over Administration opposition, would be "contrary to sound governmental policy and the long-time best interests of both farmers and consumers." Asserting that "in times such as these no one can foresee how soon these government-owned stocks may be needed," Mr. Roosevelt added that Commodity Credit Corporation should be free to dispose in an orderly manner of the $6\frac{1}{2}$ million bales of cotton and about 200 million bushels of wheat which it owns, so as to maintain an ever-normal granary to protect farmers against surpluses and consumers against scarcity.

Issue New Reference
List of Publications

Miscellaneous Publication No. 450 -- Numerical List of Current Publications of the U.S.D.A. -- has just been issued and is available from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C. at \$1.75. This publication is intended for use strictly as a "working list" for institutions and persons engaged in informational service, such as libraries, editorial offices, information specialists, and correspondence clerks handling requests for material relating to agricultural subjects. The list is arranged according to series and simplifies identification of appropriate publications when merely an identifying number is given by person requesting the material, or when the number and an incorrect reference to its title, or other scant information is supplied.

NEPPCO To Stress
Defense In Meeting

The American Egg and Poultry Review for August reports: Preliminary preparations are shaping up for the Sixth New England Poultry Producers' Council Exposition which will turn the spotlight upon the Northeast's \$250,000,000 poultry industry during four days of intensive activities at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Building at Harrisburg, Pa., commencing Oct. 7. This year, for the first time since NEPPCO assumed responsibility for staging the annual "Northeast Poultry Industry on Parade", talk of the effects of war will be heard on the Exposition floor, in meetings and committee rooms.

Army Men To Get
Chicken On
War Games

Butchers' Advocate (Aug. 20) says: The Army will have quick frozen chicken while on maneuvers, when the First Army gathers in the Carolinas for war games in October and November. Although several million pounds of beef have been prepared in this way for maneuvering troops, quick frozen chicken has never before been made available to the Army in large quantities.